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2
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**KING-
SIZE
ANNUAL!**

**ALL
NEW!**

STAR WARS



SHADESHINE!

BY
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SCRIPTER
CARMINE INFANTINO
PENCILER
RUDY NEBRES
INKER
ROSENG CHIANG
LETTERERS
GEORGE ROUSSOS
COLORIST
JIM SALICRUP
EDITOR
JIM SHOOTER
WORD SPEEDER





THE REBELS TURN,
FACING THE INTERIOR
OF WHAT WAS ONCE
A MAJESTIC TEMPLE,
BUT WHICH HAS NOW
FALLEN TO RUBBLE
AND RUIN.

SAVE THAT IS, FOR A SINGLE,
DUSTLESS MONUMENT, A
STATUE IN GLITTERING GOLD
THAT JUTS DEFIANTLY FROM
THE TEMPLE FLOOR, AN ICON
CARVED IN A SEMBLANCE
THAT IS AT ONCE HAUNTING...
AND IMPOSSIBLY FAMILIAR!

I-IT'S
HAN!

**HAN
SOLO!**



I DON'T GET IT!
HAN NEVER TOLD
ME HE'D BEEN TO
VENTOINE!

AND WHY WOULD
ANYONE BUILD A
STATUE OF A SPICE-
SMUGGLER-TURNED-
REBEL-HERO?

MIGHT I REMIND YOU,
SIR, THAT THOSE STORM-
TROOPERS ARE STILL--



PLEASE, GOOD GIRL,
YOU WILL TELL ME
WHY YOU ARE COME
TO THIS PLACE!

HUH?

WHO
ARE
YOU?



I AM VETTER
PIIN, A ROY OF
THE CHURCH, AND
CARETAKER TO
THIS SHRINE.

NOW, YOU WILL
TELL ME WHY YOU
COME, PLEASE.



YOU DO SPEAK
GALAXY
STANDARD?

SURE, WE'RE
SPEAKING IT NOW.
AND, UH, WELL,
WE'VE COME TO
PAY HOMAGE TO
YOUR STATUE.
ER, SHRINE!



HMM, YES, NOW THAT
I AM CLOSER, I SEE MORE
THE LIKENESS. YOU ARE
OF THE SAME SPECIES
AS OUR SAVIOR.

"SAVIOR"?

HAN?!

YOU'RE
KIDDING...

NOT AT ALL. THIS SHRINE IS DEDICATED TO HE WHO SAVED OUR PEOPLE FROM THE EVIL REIGN, AND FROM THE DEADLY CURSE OF THE SHADESHINE!



"SHADESHINE"? LIKE, THAT'S THE WEAPON-- UH, THE ITEM WE CAME LOOKING FOR! CAN YOU TELL US ANY MORE, MR.-- THAT IS, ROY PITH?



OF COURSE. IT IS MY PLACE AND PRIVILEGE TO RECOUNT THE TALE OF SALVATION TO ALL PILGRIMS WHO DESIRE OF IT.



WELL, I'D THINK THAT A WAY OFF THIS UNPLEASANT LITTLE PLANET WOULD BE OF MORE USE TO US THAN SOME PROVINCIAL FAIRY TALE! IF YOU ASK ME--

THREEPIO ... HUSH!

PERHAPS, BEING OF THE SAME SPECIES, YOU WOULD FIND HEARING THE LEGEND IN OUR SENIOR'S OWN WORDS MORE MOVING, EH?

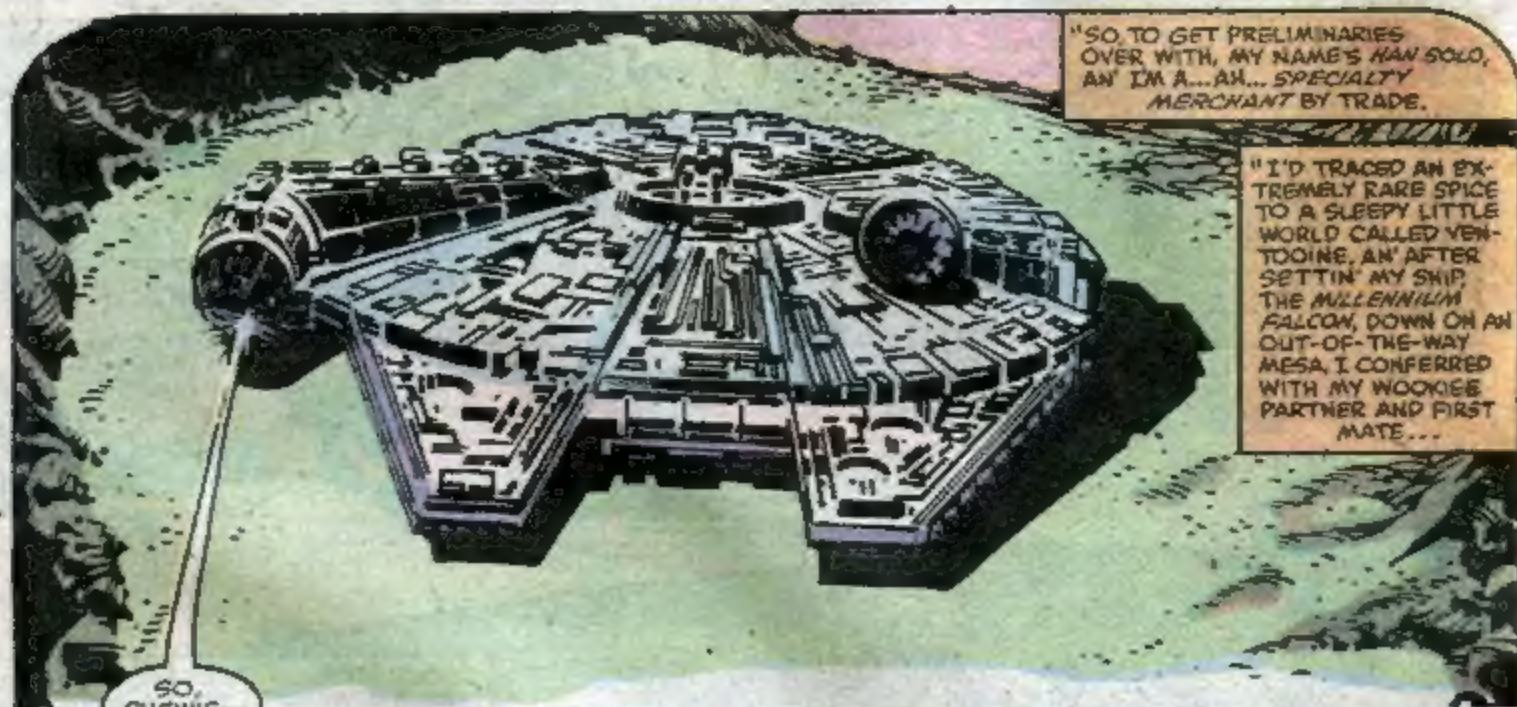
COME...

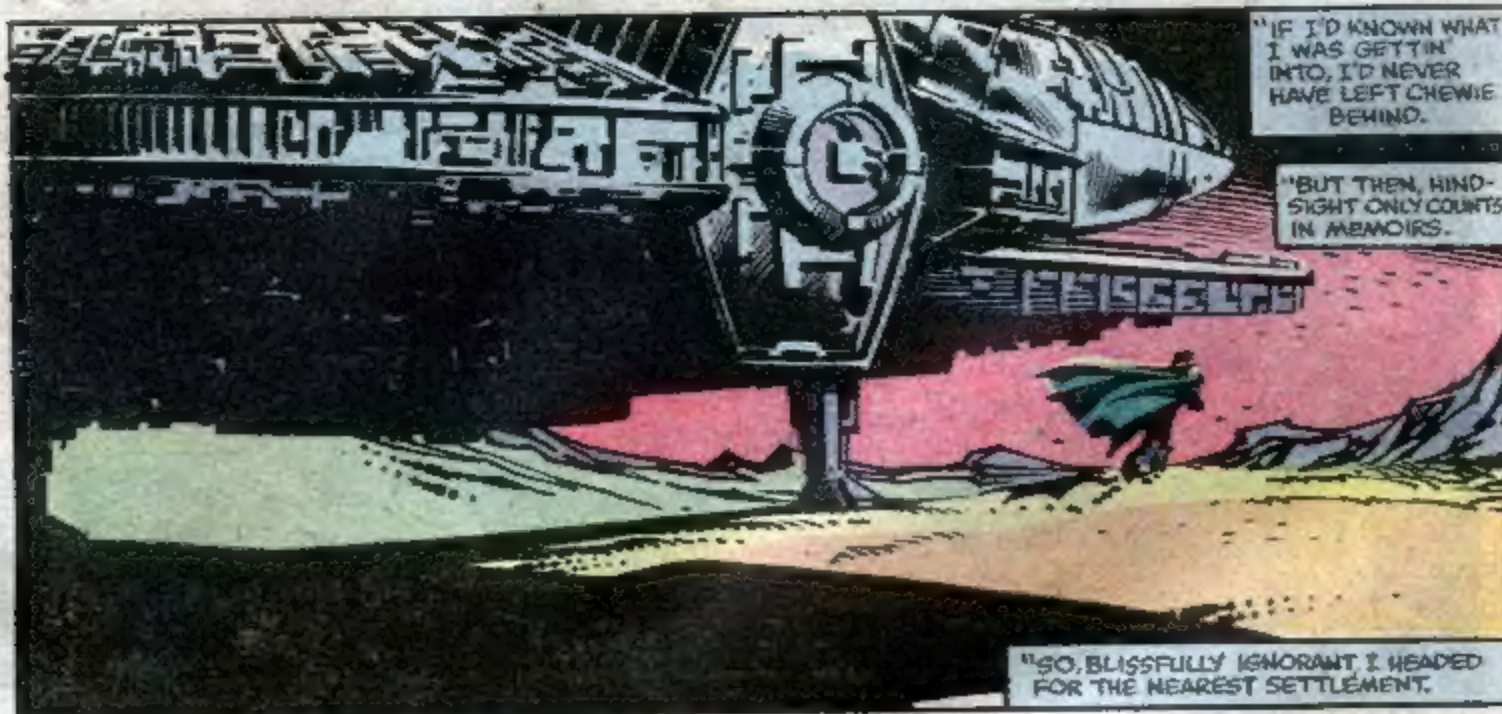


WAIT A MINUTE! HAN IS FROZEN IN CARBONITE, A PRISONER OF BOBA FETT! HOW COULD HE POSSIBLY--

SHRRMMM

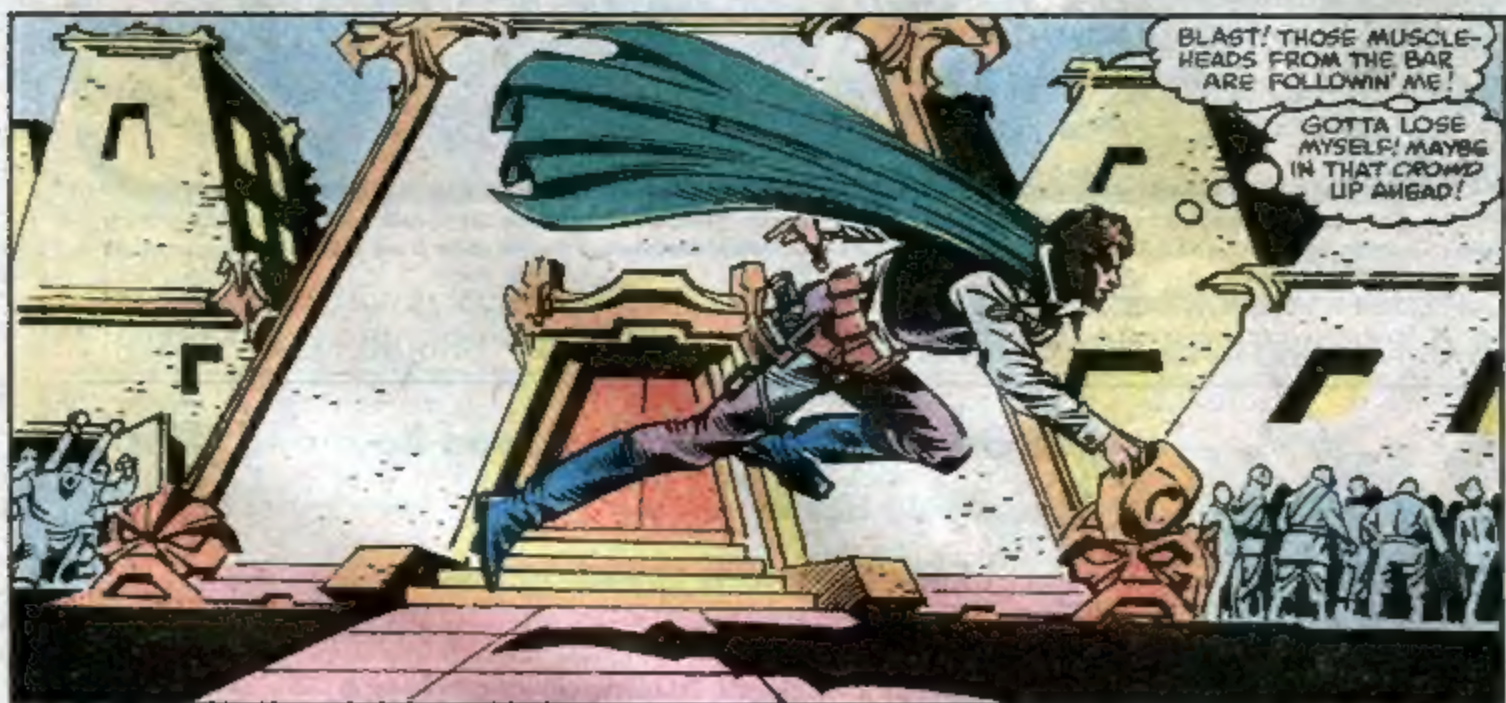
YOU CAN'T IMAGINE HOW SILLY I FEEL TALKIN' INTO A ROCK!

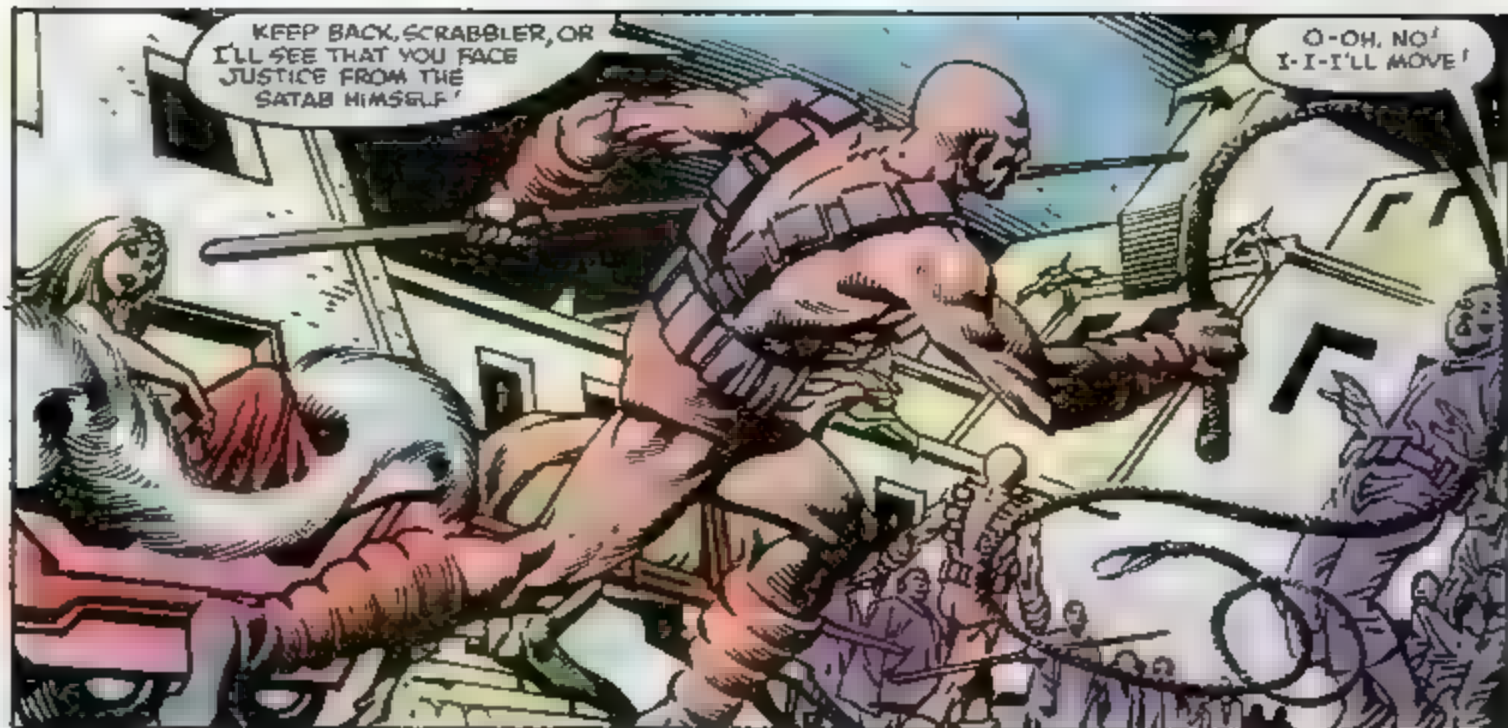












KEEP BACK, SCRABBLER, OR
I'LL SEE THAT YOU FACE
JUSTICE FROM THE
SATAB HIMSELF!

O-OH, NO!
I-I-I'LL MOVE!



THEY'RE
GETTING
CLOSER.
ROY PIIN.
SOON I'LL
BE ABLE TO
DROP THIS
BOMB RIGHT
INTO THAT
SMIRKING
SHE DOGS
LAP!

PLEASE, PHALAP,
MUST YOU TAKE
SUCH PLEASURE IN
YOUR TASK? VIOLENCE
IS ABHORRENT IN
ANY FORM.

IF ONLY WE COULD
WAIT FOR THE FUL-
FILLMENT OF THE
FORETELLING--



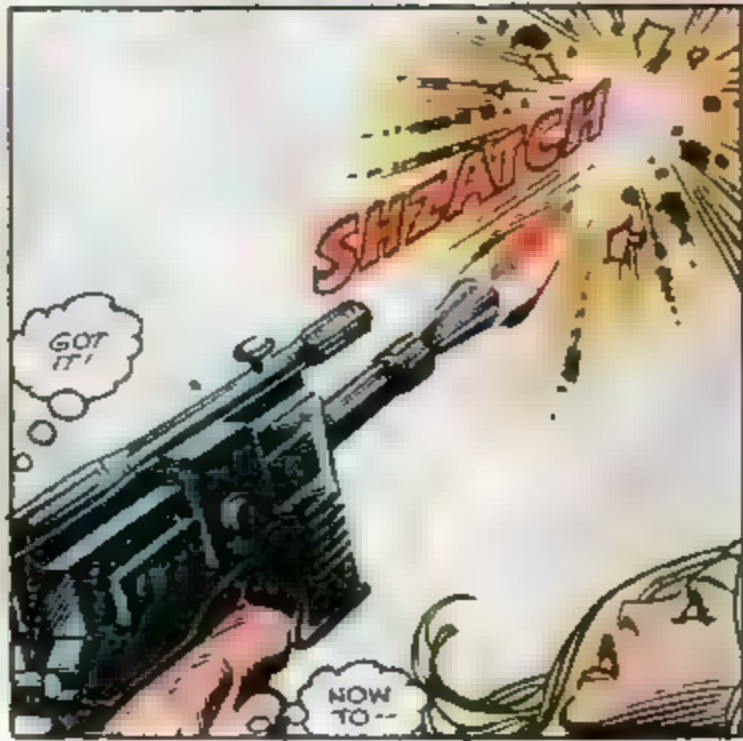
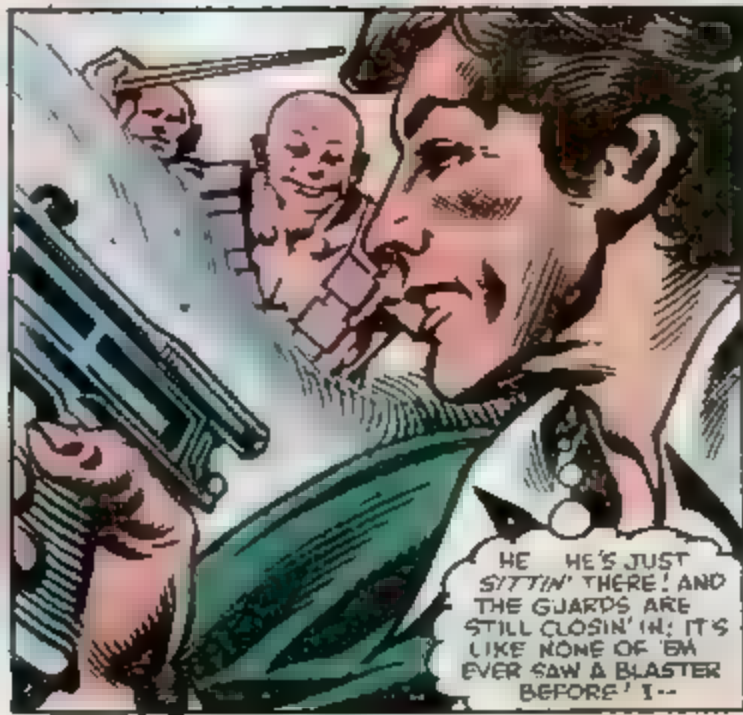
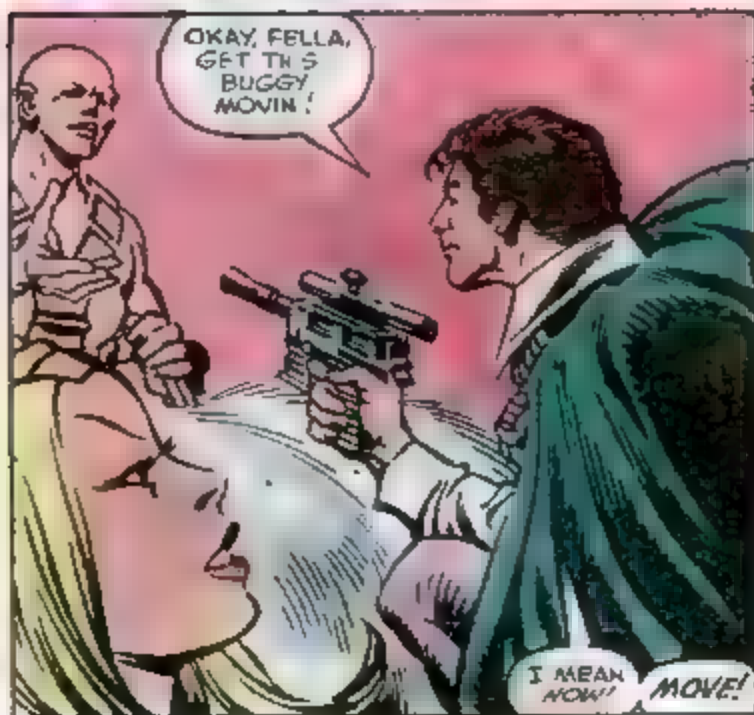
--THE PROPHECY THAT
PROMISES A BEING WITH
WAYS AND WEAPONS FAR
DIFFERENT FROM OUR OWN.
A BEING WHO WILL HELP
LIFT THE YOKE OF THE
SATAB'S TYRANNY!

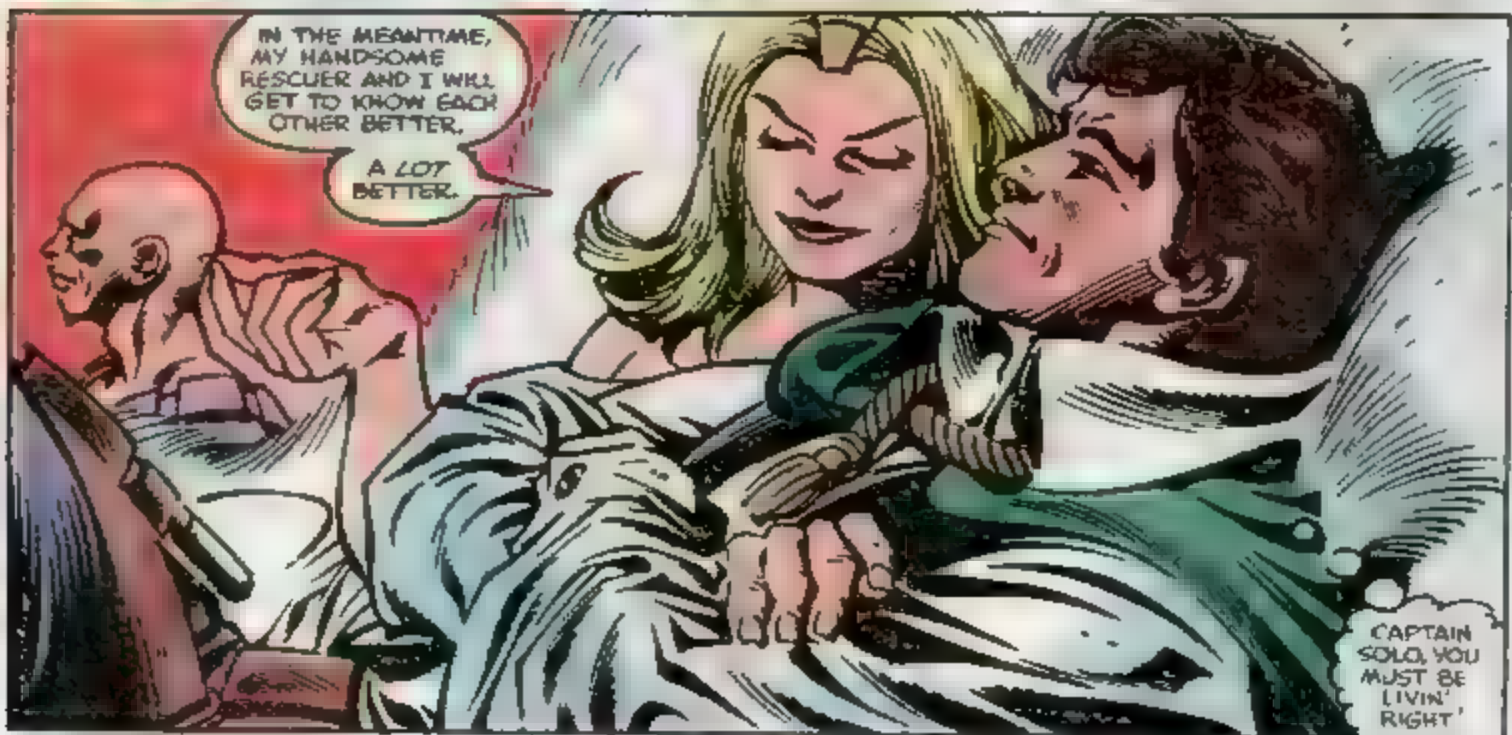
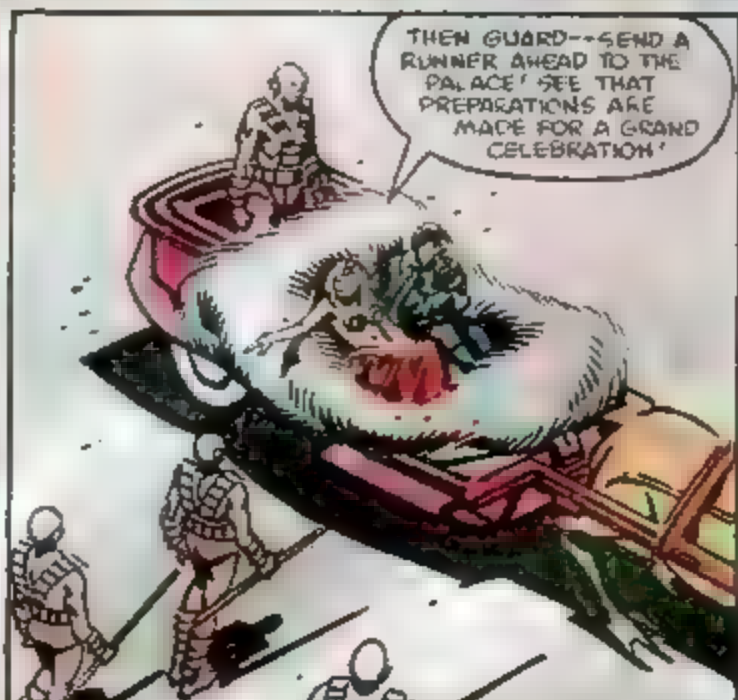
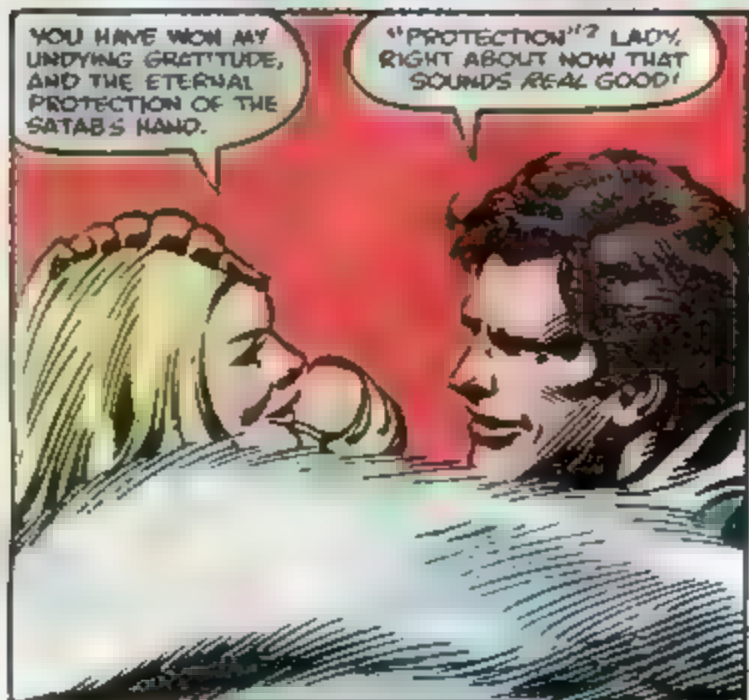
BUT...UNTIL
THAT TIME...I
SUPPOSE WE MUST
DO WHAT WE CAN TO
HELP OURSELVES--
EVEN IF THAT MEANS
ASSASSINATING
MEMBERS OF THE
ROYAL FAMILY!

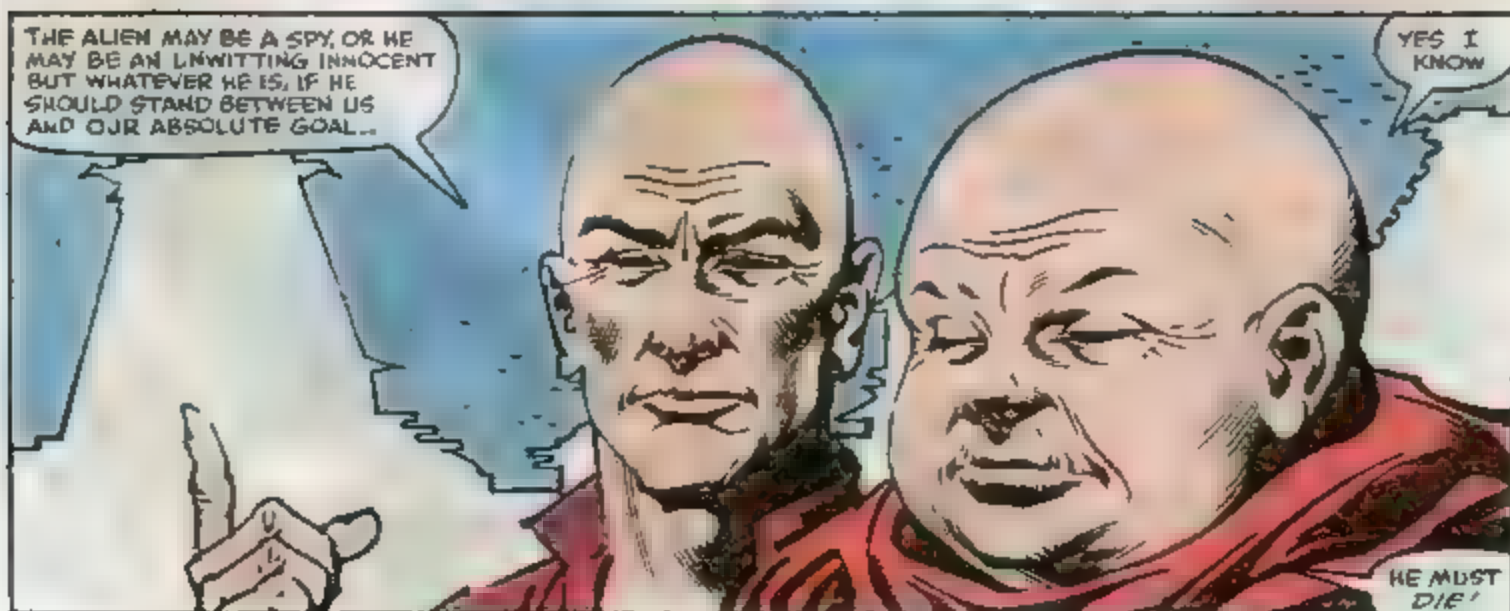
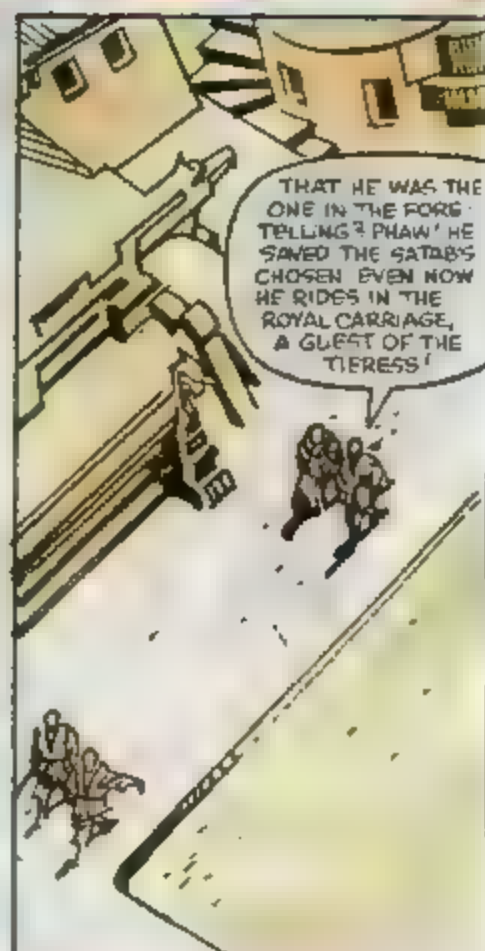
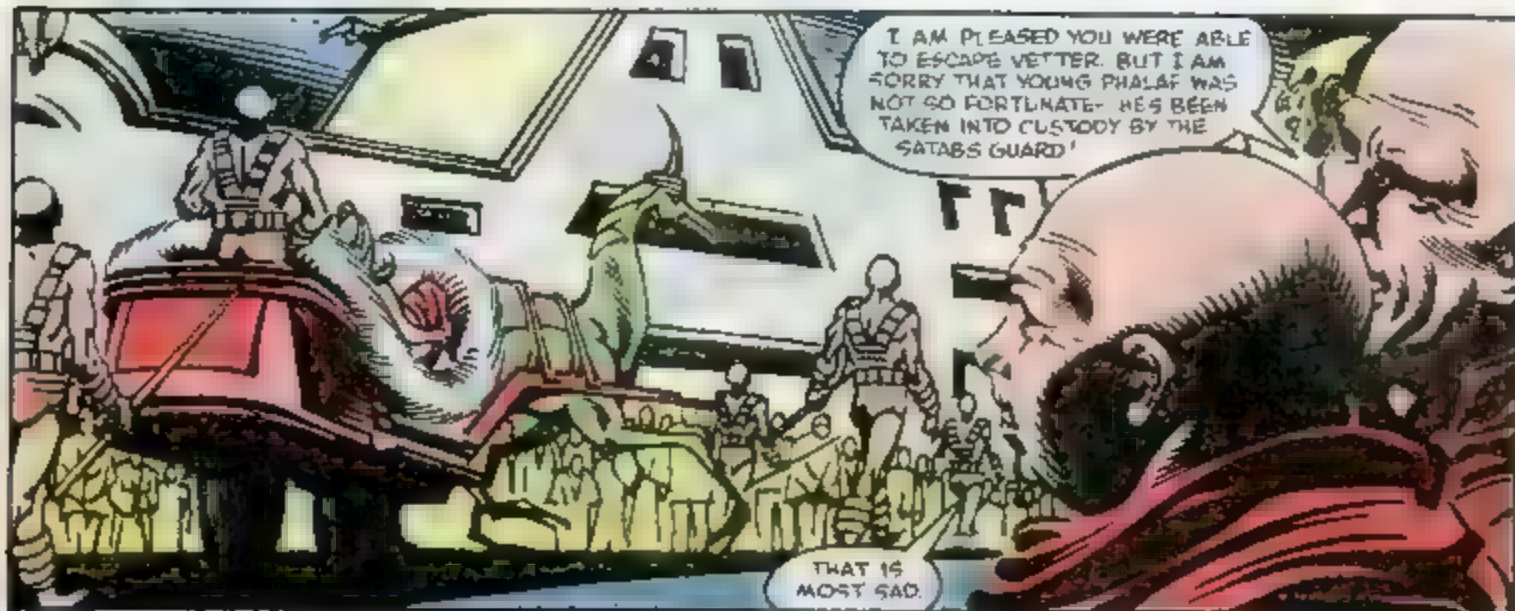


SO TENDER YOUR
MALICE WITH
COMPASSION,
MY SON--

--AND
SEE THAT
YOUR AIM
IS TRUE!

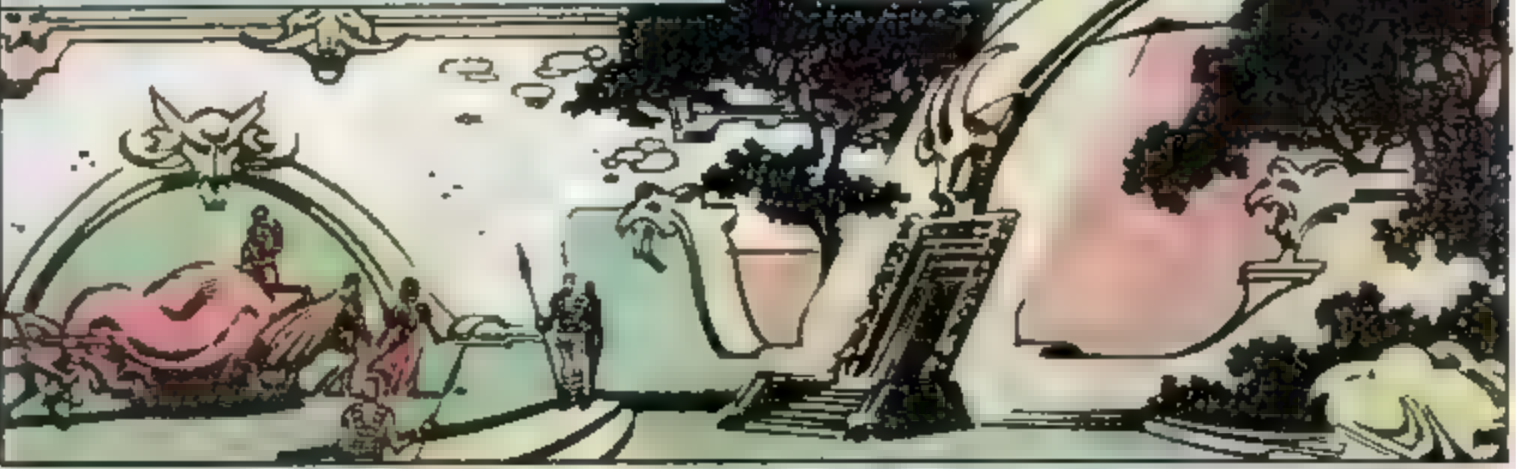






"I'M AFRAID I DIDN'T PAY MUCH ATTENTION TO THE TOWN WE PASSED THROUGH - I WAS A LITTLE PREOCCUPIED. BUT MY EYES PERKED RIGHT UP WHEN HE GOT TO THE PALACE."

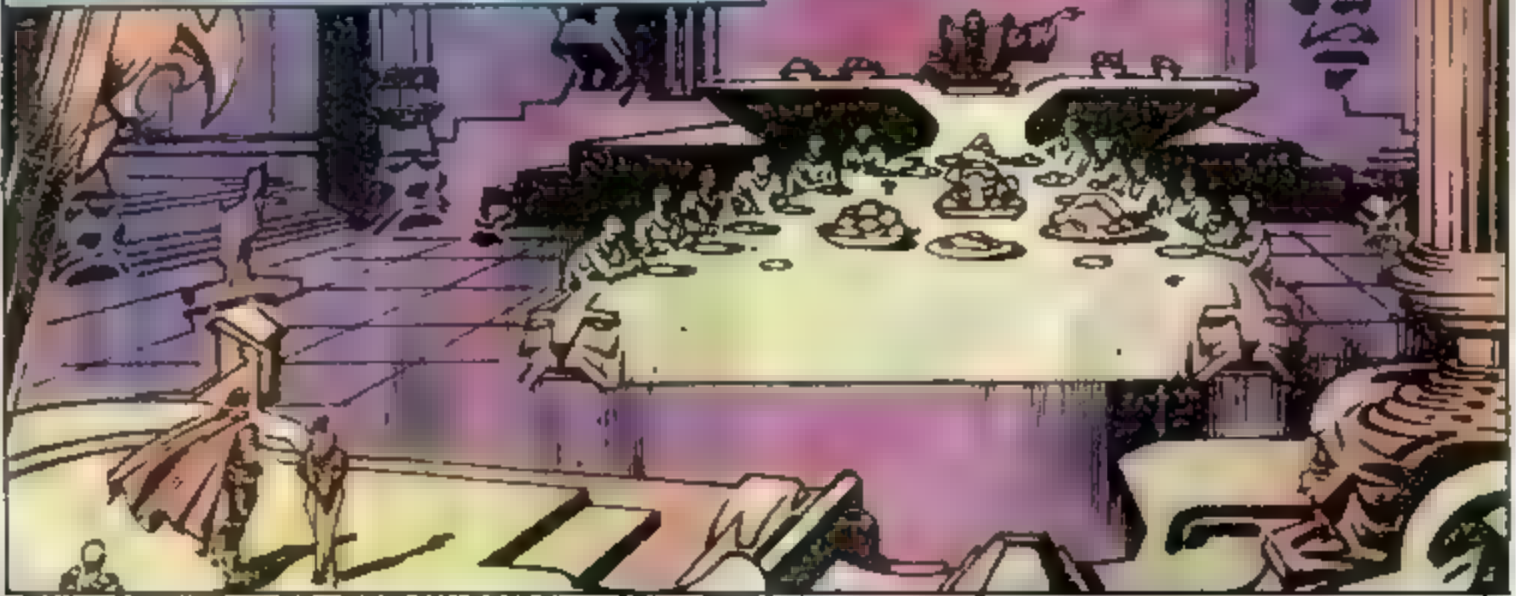
"... WAS QUITE A SIGHT."



"AND SO WAS THE BANQUET HALL WE WERE LED TO. I'LL ADMIT THAT DICKY EAT A LITTLE MUCH. IN FACT, I HAD BEEN GATHERED AROUND A 9-MILE TABLE ONE SET WITH A FEAST FIT FOR A KING OR IN THE TALE FOR THE UNQUESTIONED RULER OF THE ENTIRE PLANET."

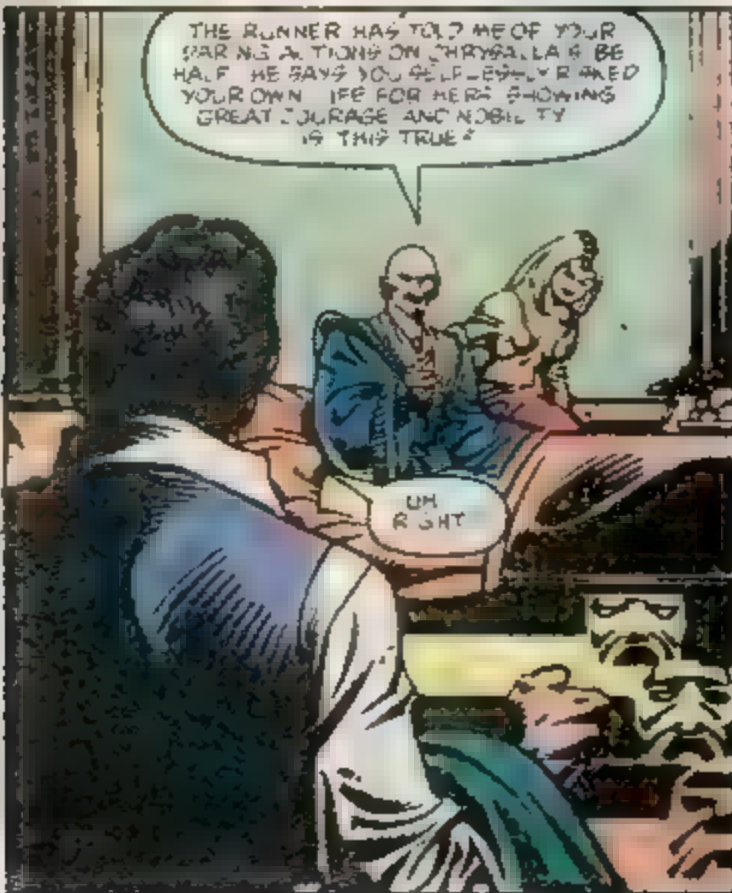
"... THE SATAP!"

"WE'LL OME MY FRIENDS - WE'LL SIT AROUND ME."



"THE RUNNER HAS TOLD ME OF YOUR BRAVE ACTIONS ON CHRYSALLA & BE HALF. HE SAYS YOU SELFLESSLY RISKED YOUR OWN LIFE FOR HERE SHOWING GREAT COURAGE AND NOBILITY. IS THIS TRUE?"

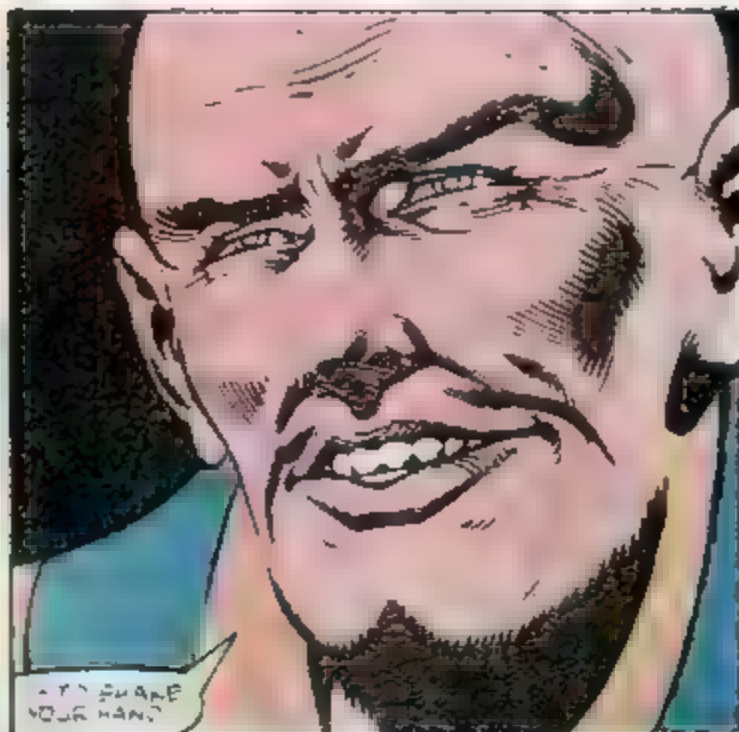
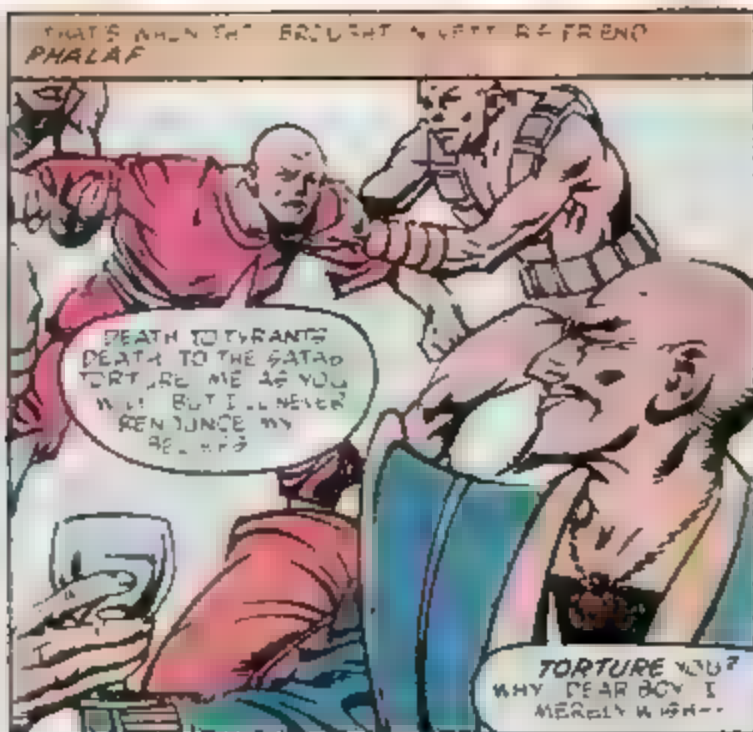
"UH... RIGHT."



"THEN YOU MUST STAY HERE AS MY GUEST AND I SHALL SEE THAT YOU HAVE 'ONLY THE BEST' - IN FOOD, IN DRINK, AND ENTERTAINMENT."

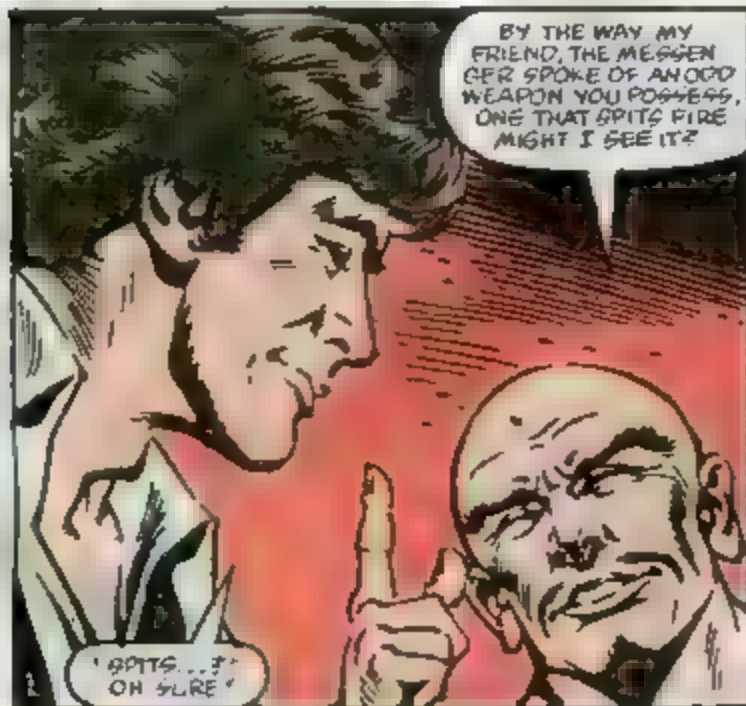
"GUARDS!"







'AN THOSE SLUGS SITIN' ROUND THE
TABLE JUST CACKLED AN CLAPPED L KE
SOMEBODY D TOLD AN OFF-COLOR JOKE



BY THE WAY MY
FRIEND, THE MESSEN
GER SPOKE OF AN OOD
WEAPON YOU POSSESS.
ONE THAT SPITS FIRE
MIGHT I SEE IT?

'SPITS...?'
OH SURE



THIS PLANET MUST NOT
HAVE A MECHANICAL
TECHNOLOGY--THAT'S
WHY NO ONE'S EVER
HEARD OF A BLASTER!

BUT IF O. SATAB
THINKS I'M GONNA
GIVE UP MY ONLY
MEANS OF SELF
DEFENSE, HE'S--



-- ONE SHREWD
SONOVAGUN!
GULP!



HERE YA GO.
TAKE GOOD
CARE OF IT. WILL YA?
IT WAS A GIFT FROM
MY MOM.

OF COURSE NOW,
I BELIEVE WE MAY
ENJOY OUR MEAL...



"EVERYBODY
STARTED TO
DIG IN--

"AN' THAT'S
WHEN I HIT
FAYO.RT."

WELL WELL.
WHAT HAVE WE
HERE?"

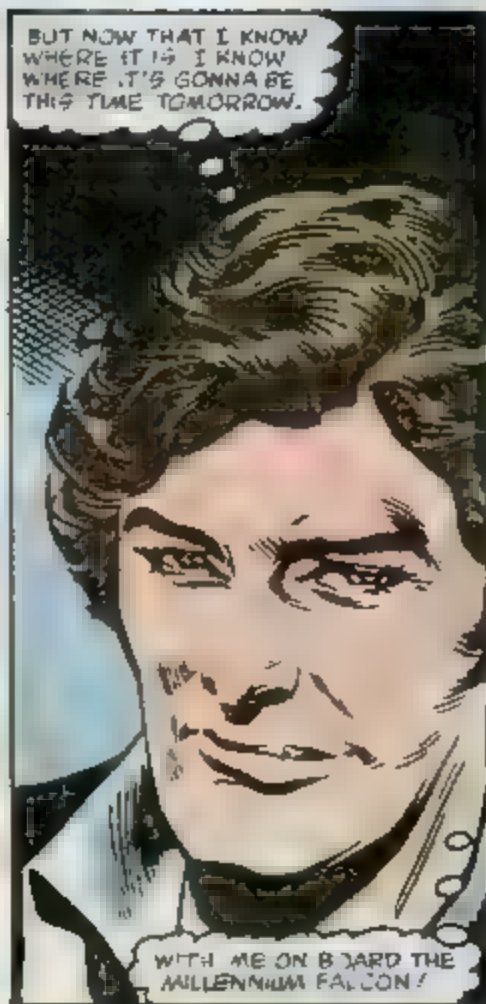


IF THAT SPARKLY
POWDER THE BIG
GUYS SPRINKLIN'
ON HIS FOOD SN'T
SANGANNA THEN
I'M A BANTHA'S
UNCLE!



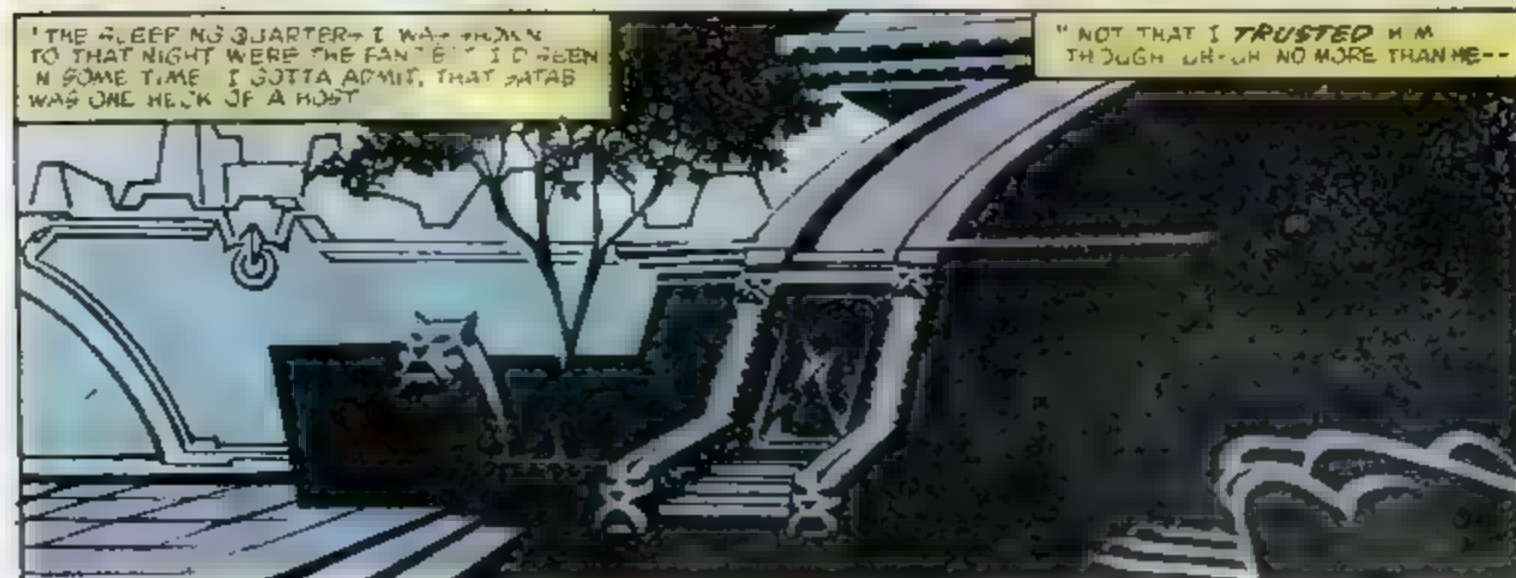
SATAB MUST HAVE A
CORNER ON THE
SANGANNA MARKET--

-- THAT'S WHY H'S
"LOV'NG SUBJECTS" GOT
HOSTILE WHEN I ASKED
HOW T.J. GOT SOME!



BUT NOW THAT I KNOW
WHERE IT IS I KNOW
WHERE IT'S GONNA BE
THIS TIME TOMORROW.

WITH ME ON BOARD THE
MILLENNIUM FALCON!



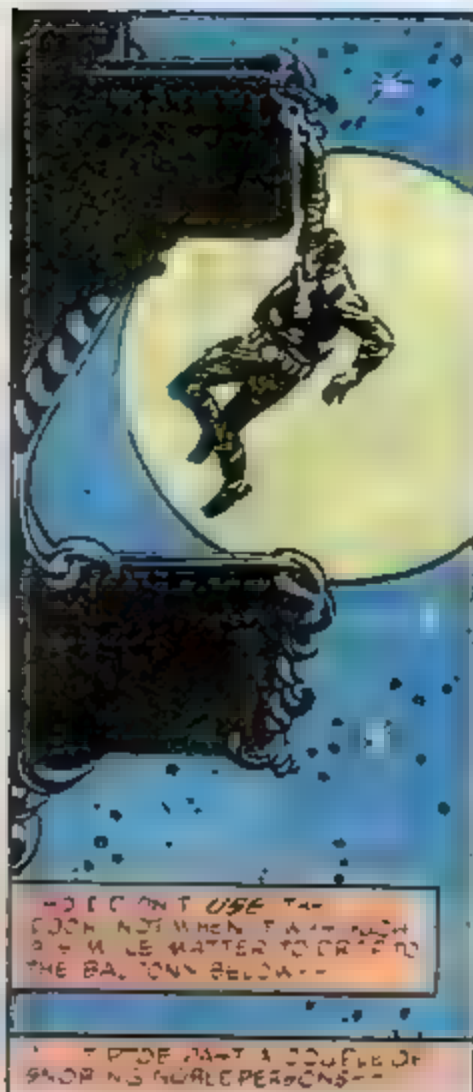
"THE SLEEPING QUARTER-- I WAS TAKEN
TO THAT NIGHT WERE THE FANTASY I'D SEEN
IN SOME TIME. I GOTTA ADMIT, THAT SATAB
WAS ONE HECK OF A HOST."

"NOT THAT I **TRUSTED** H.M.
THOUGH. OH- OH NO MORE THAN HE--



--TRUSTED ME.

"THERE WAS NO WAY I
COULD GET PAST THE
GUARDS HE'D POSTED
AT MY GLOBE."



"I CAN'T USE THE
GLOBE WHEN I AM WITH
A WILEY MATTER TO GET TO
THE BALCONY BELOW."

"I'D WANT A COUPLE OF
GUARDS NO MORE PERSONS--"



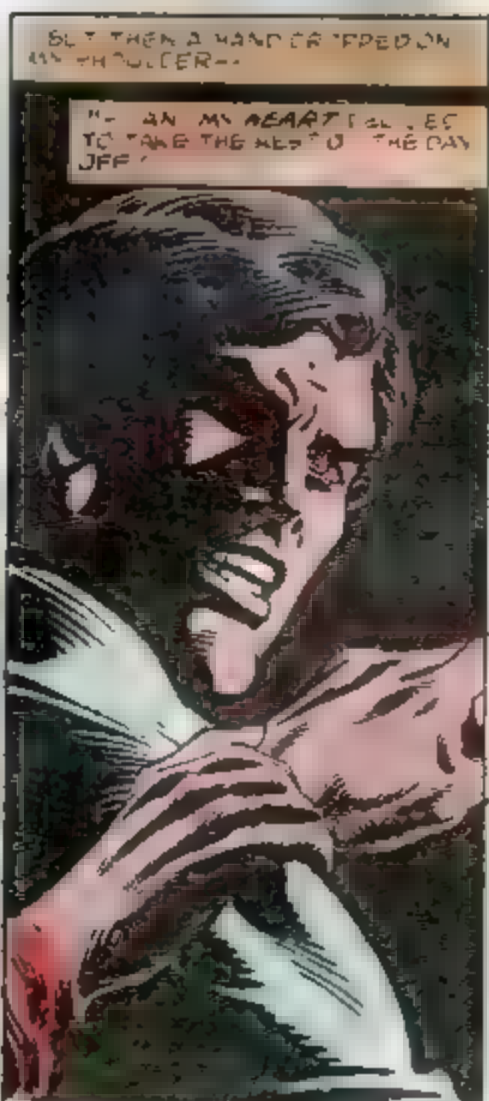
"--AN + PASTAL A WILEY
CORRIDOR IF I WERE TO ENJOY
AROUND AND WHERE THE GLOBE
KEPT ME + SAN ANNA AN THEN
STEALER, OBTAIN ENOUGH TO
MAKE MY TRIP WORTHWHILE."



"THE PLAN WAS JUST HOW I WOULD
BE."

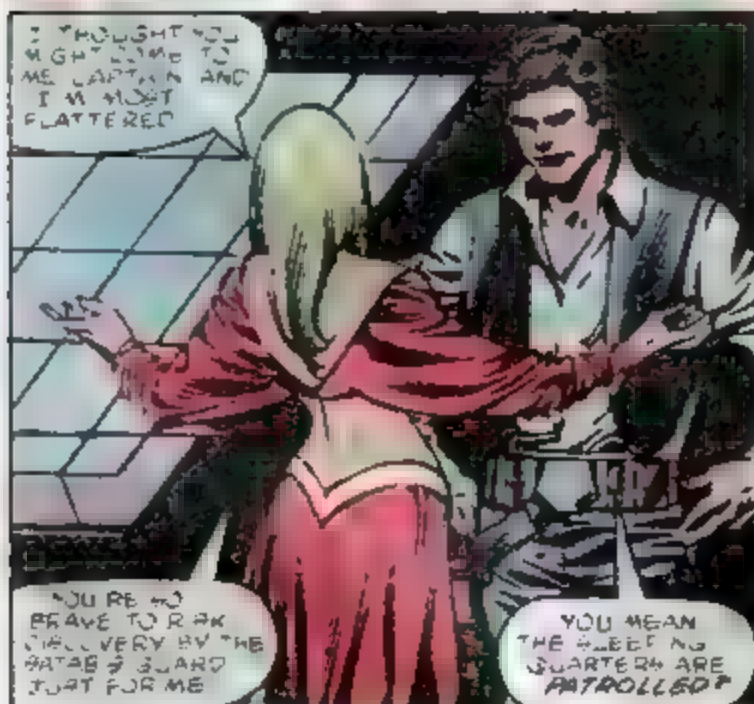


"--A WILEY FOUR-PROOF
ON CASE."



"BUT THEN A HAND CRIPPLED ON
MY THROAT--"

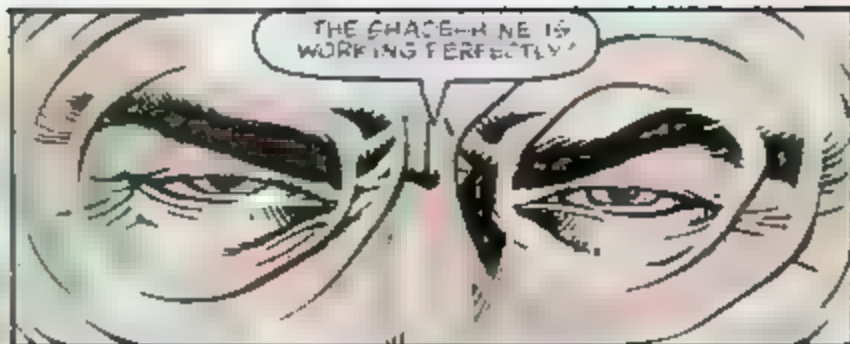
"--AN MY HEART BEGINS
TO TAKE THE HEAT OF THE DAY
OFF."





CAN YOU
SEE THEM,
MASTERS?

OF COURSE I
CAN, PLODGETT--



THE CHACE-- HE IS
WORKING PERFECTLY!



NO MATTER
HOW MANY WALLS
LIE BETWEEN ME
AND WHAT I WISH
TO SEE--

--I CAN
SEE WHATEVER
I WISH!



THEN YOU
WILL PUNISH
THE STRANGER
FOR HIS
TREAHERY
AND YOUR
THANKS
WANT FOR
HIS BETRAYAL.



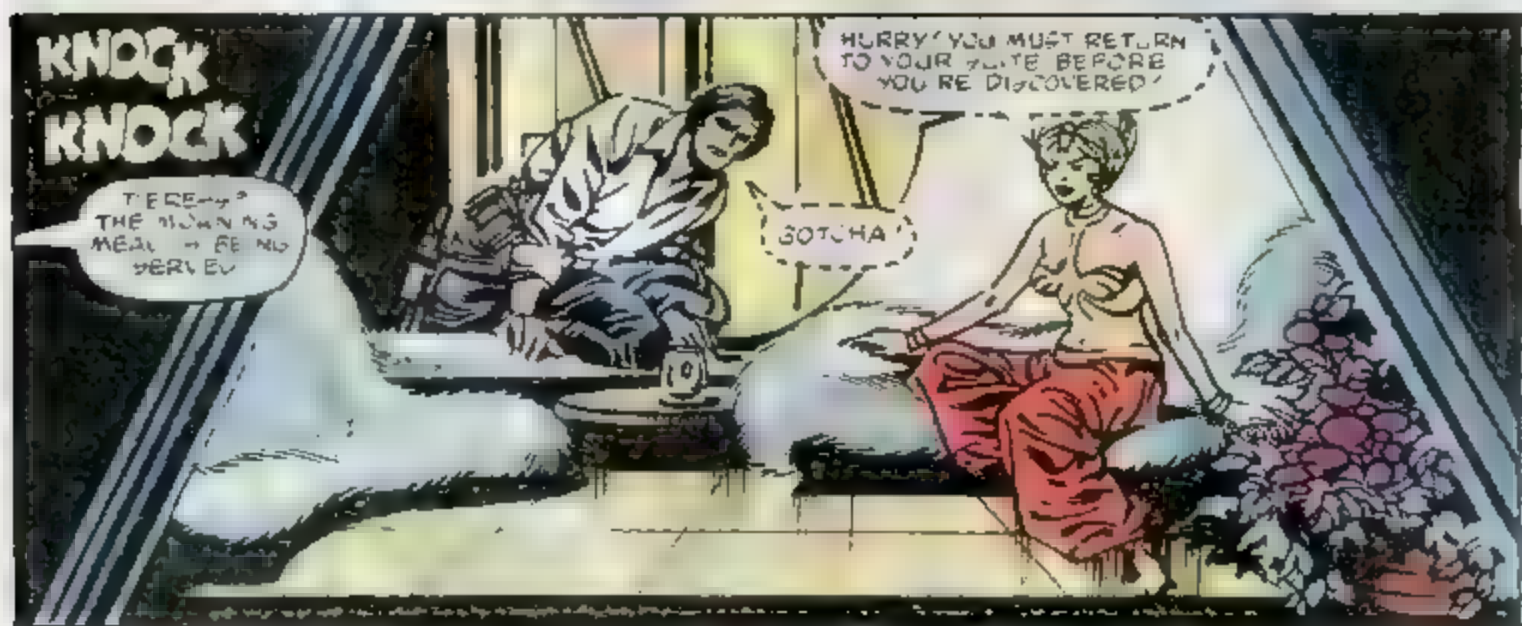
NO PLODGETT AS LONG AS
CHRYALLA CONTINUES TO
ASSURE ME SHE CAN BE FOR
EVEN FOR LITTLE-- AS A
PART-- AND AS FOR THE
DASHING CAPTAIN SOW,
WELL--

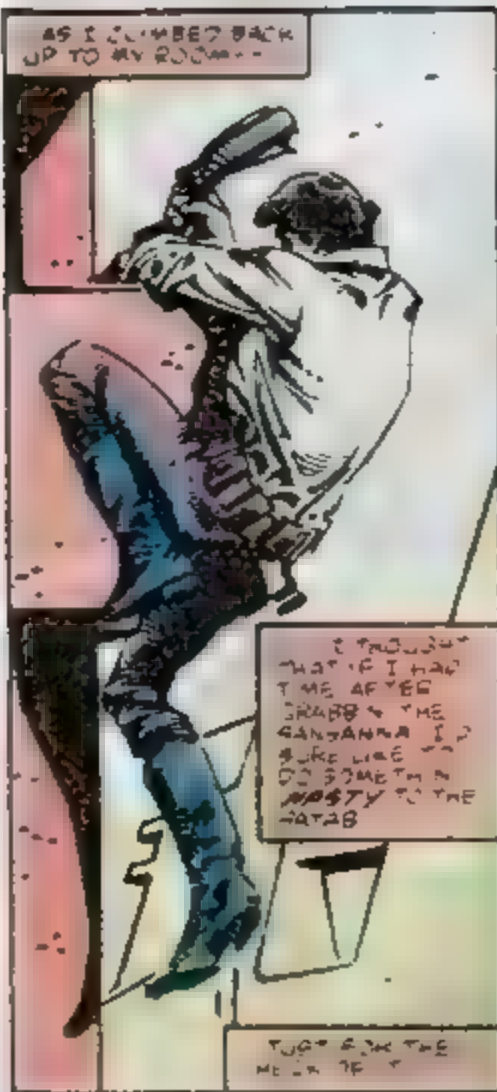
HE WAS
ADMIRABLE
RE-- LENCY,
GREAT STA
MINA AND
SHALL WE
SAY--

--INTERESTING
WORAL-- I
BELIEVE HE
MAY NOT BE
A PERFECT
--INDICATE



--FOR THE
NEXT ONE!





THE VULCANITE IS TOO HARD MADE OF A MINERAL
THAT REACTS WITH THE STONE WALLS, CUTTING
THROUGH THEM IN A QUOTE EFFICIENTLY

AND WE USE EVEN MORE UNIQUE
METHODS UP AHEAD, IF YOU ARE
TO LOOK?

SURE WHY
NOT?

I'LL JOIN YOU

2021-11-11

BUT

10-16-78

AND MASTER.

"I NEVER SAW CATARS LOCKED
THROUGH THE STONE WATCH I NEVER
SAW THE HIDDEN CAGE LOCK OR OPEN

' BUT SOON I SAW
THOSE ACTIONS -'

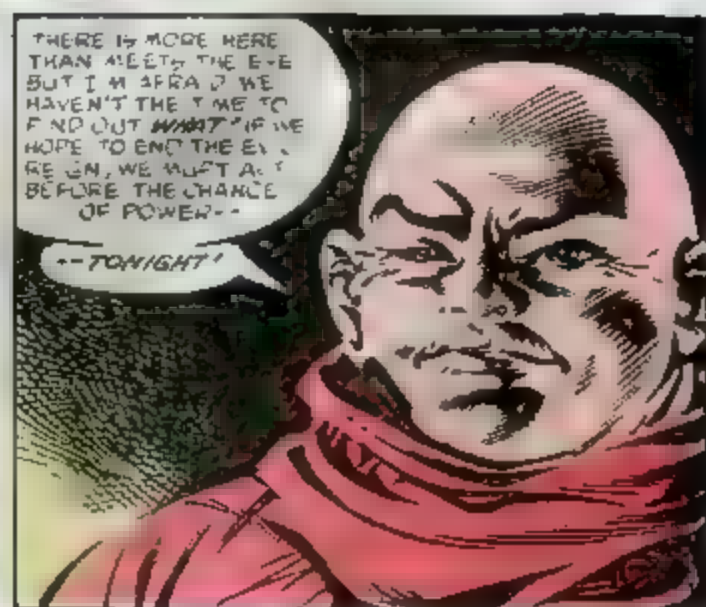
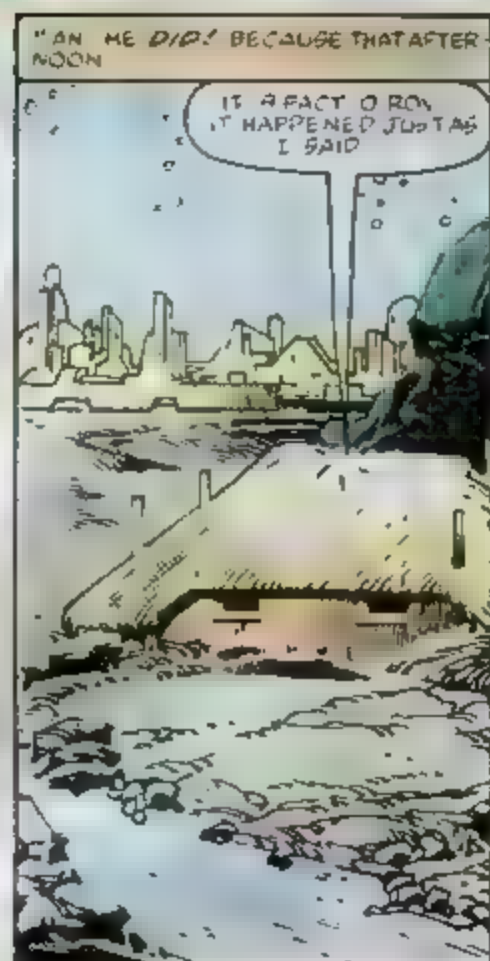
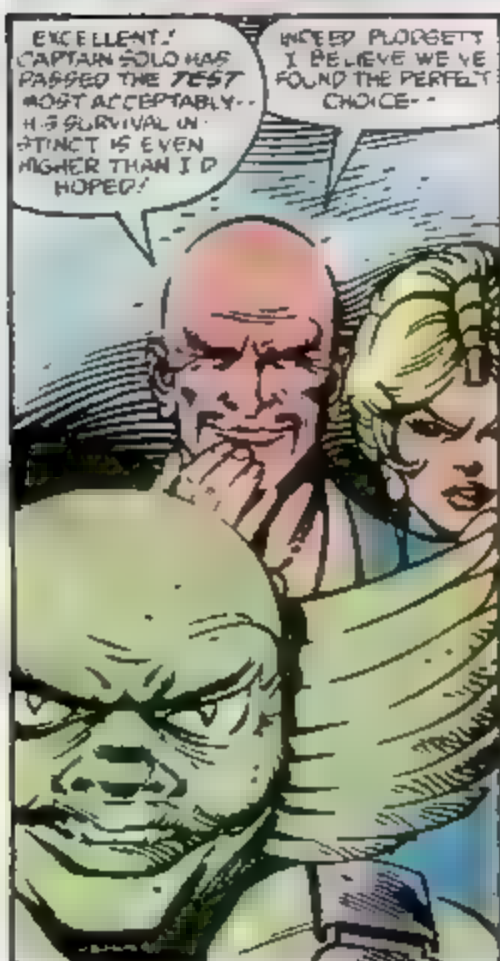
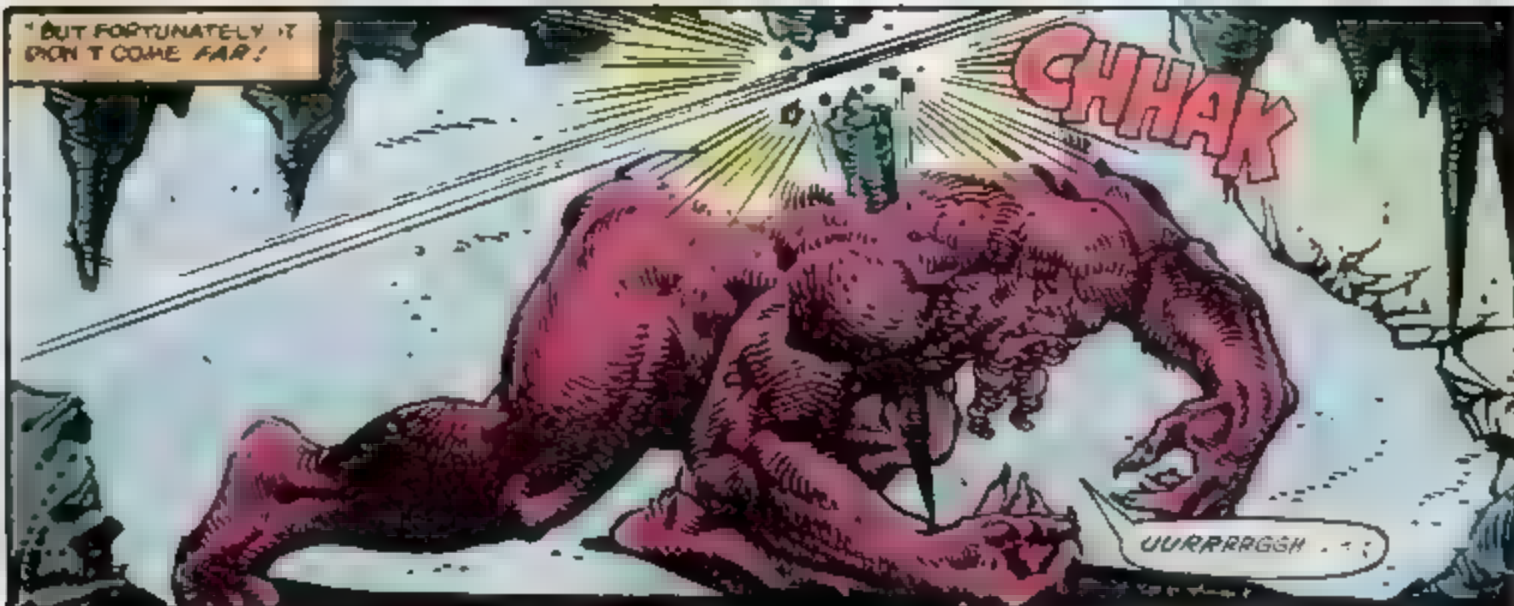
1 - RESULTS

GRRRRR!

$$H_1: \mu \neq 2$$

ON SECOND
THOUGHT I KNOW
WHAT TO DO

IT'S COMIN'
AFTER ME

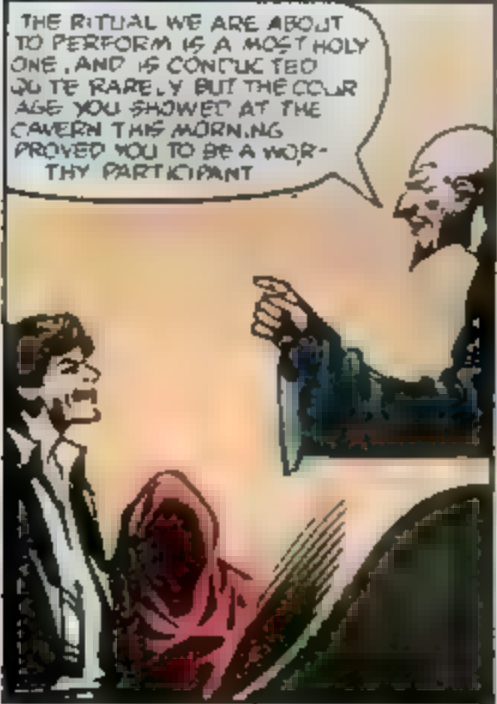




THE REST OF THE DAY PASSED PEACEFULLY GIV'N ME TIME TO POLISH MY PLANS FOR MAKIN' OFF WITH THE SANGANNA THAT N'GT

BUT AS EVEN'N ROLLED AROUND I WAS SUMMONED TO A SMALL TEMPLE IN THE PALACE, WHERE THE SATAB AN A BUNCH OF HOODED WORSHIPPERS WERE WAITIN'.

AH, CAPTAIN F.L.O. I'M SO GLAD YOU COULD JOIN US.

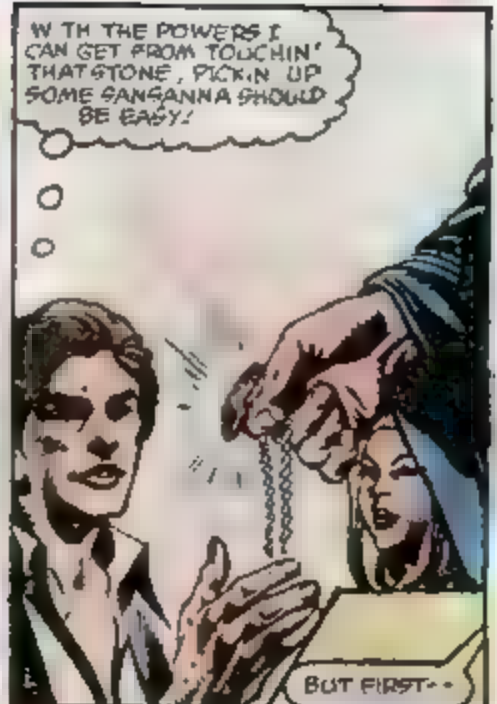


THE RITUAL WE ARE ABOUT TO PERFORM IS A MOST HOLY ONE, AND IS CONDUCTED QUITE RARELY BUT THE COURAGE YOU SHOWED AT THE CAVERN THIS MORNING PROVED YOU TO BE A WORTHY PARTICIPANT



THEREFORE, I AM GOING TO ALLOW YOU TO SHARE THE HONOR, AND THE WONDERS, OF SHADESHINE!

WELL, WHADYA KNOW? LOOKS LIKE THE OL' GOLD LUCK IS HOLDIN' OUT!



WITH THE POWERS I CAN GET FROM TOUCHIN' THAT STONE, PICKIN' UP SOME SANGANNA SHOULD BE EASY!

BUT FIRST--



-- I BELIEVE WE HAVE SOME UNINVITED GUESTS TO TEND TO! GUARDS!

HUH?!

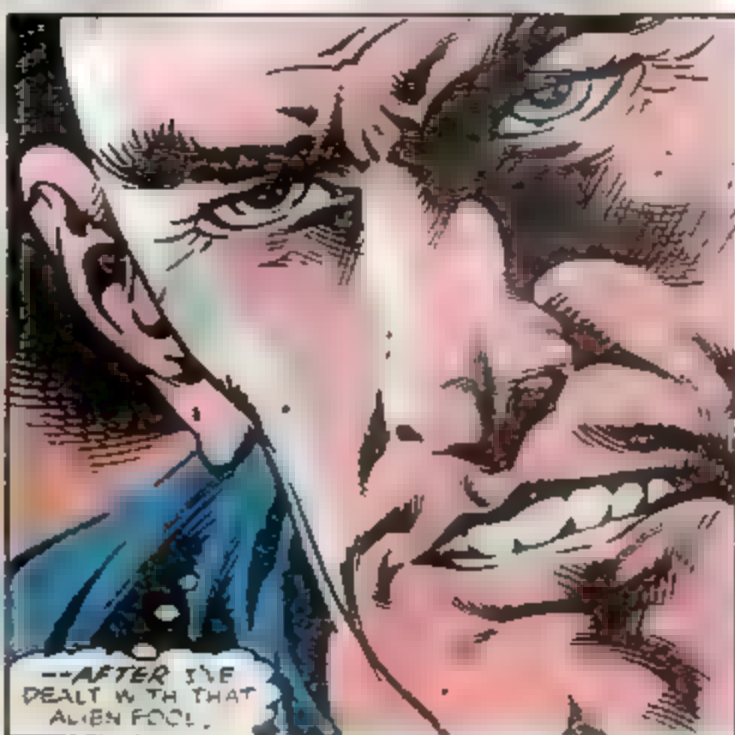
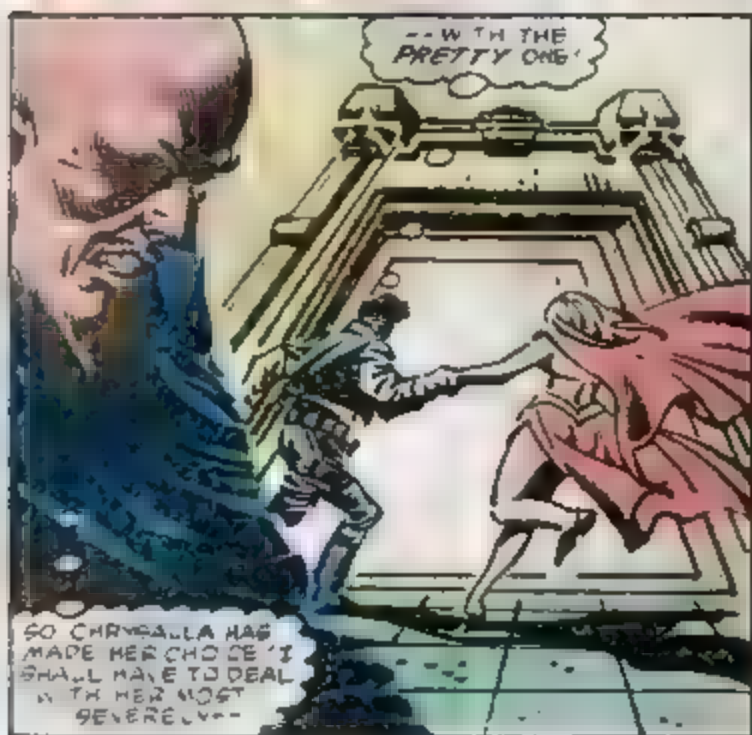
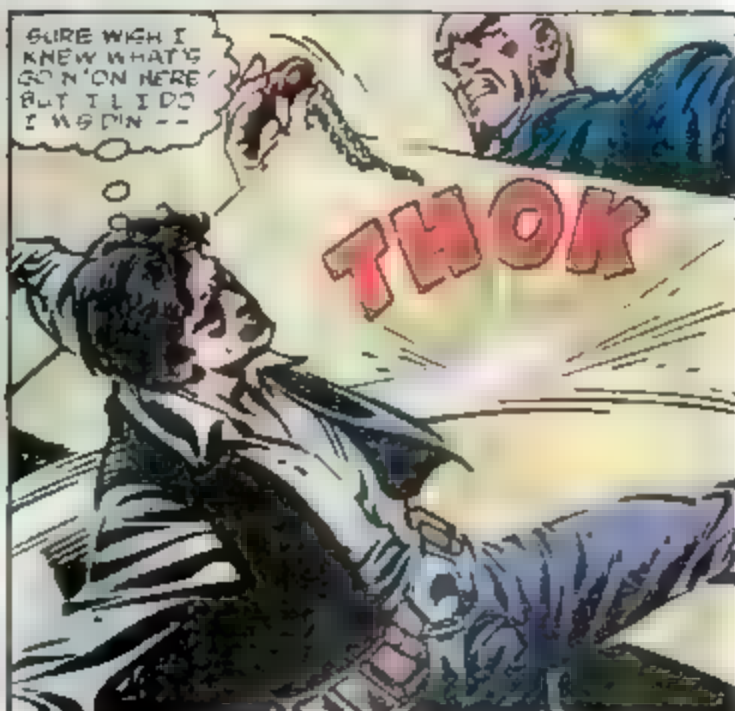
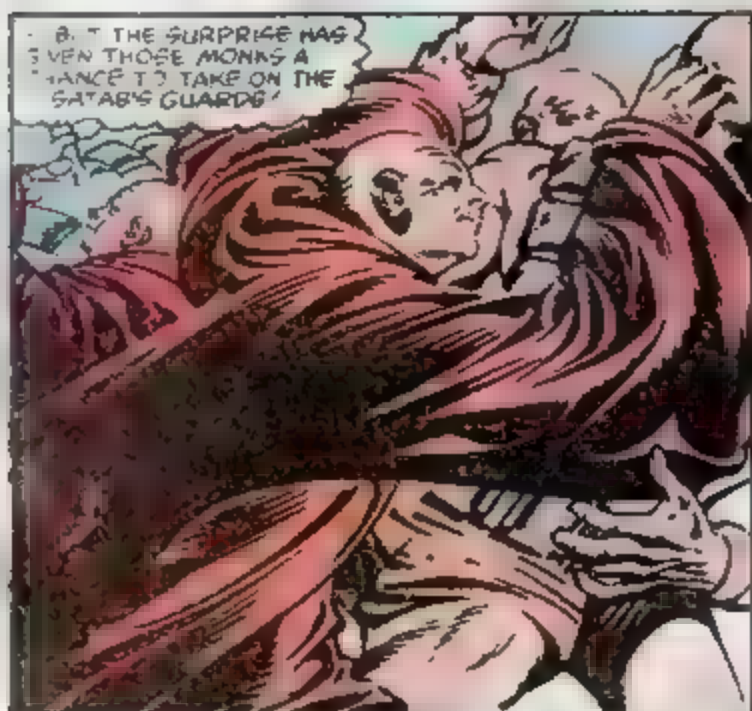
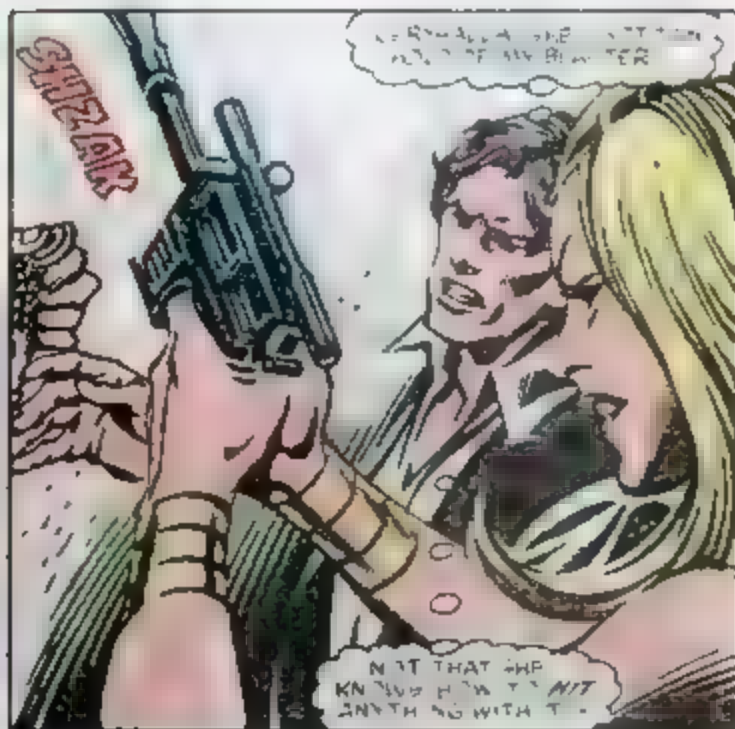
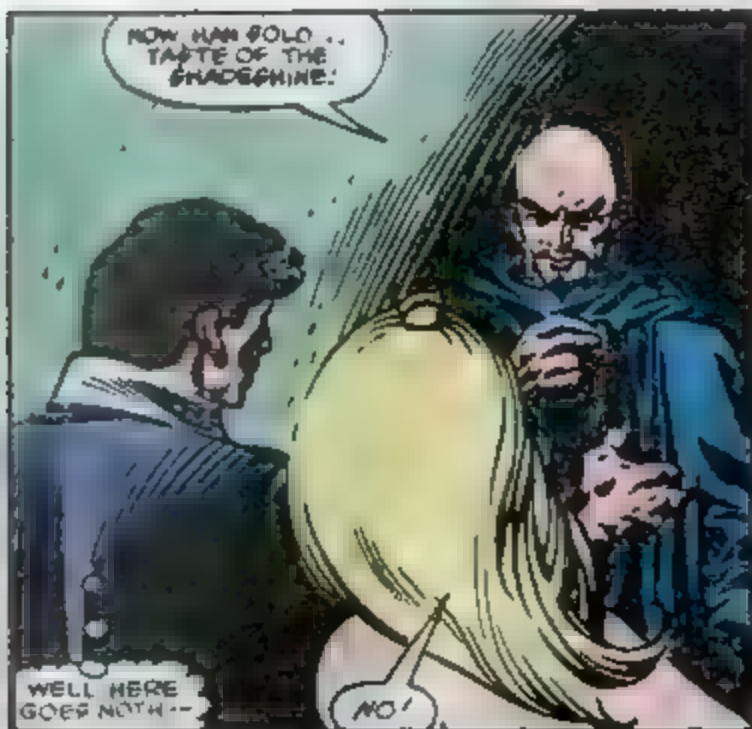
SATAB! HOW DID YOU KNOW--



-- THAT WE HAD INFILTRATED YOUR CLERGY?

IT'S THAT OLD MONK FROM THE VILLAGE!

BETTER D'N, YOU SHOULD REALIZE BY NOW THAT WITH MY POWERS I CAN QUITE LITERALLY SMELL A PEASANT A MILE AWAY!





...AN LIKE THE SUNS OF ORD MANTELL A
SECRET DOOR IN ONE WALL BEGAN TO
RISE, SLOWLY, SILENTLY.

THIS IS
THE HALL OF
SATABS. IT IS
WHERE OUR LEAD-
ERS GO WHEN
THEY ARE NEAR
DEATH



THE MINERALS THAT COMPOSE
THE CHAMBER'S WALLS NULLIFY BOTH
GRAVITY AND LIFE FUNCTION. THUS
A SATAB MERELY WALKS IN AND
SECONDS LATER IS RENDERED IM-
MORTAL, FLOATING IN A STATE OF
SLEEPLIKE SUSPENSION.



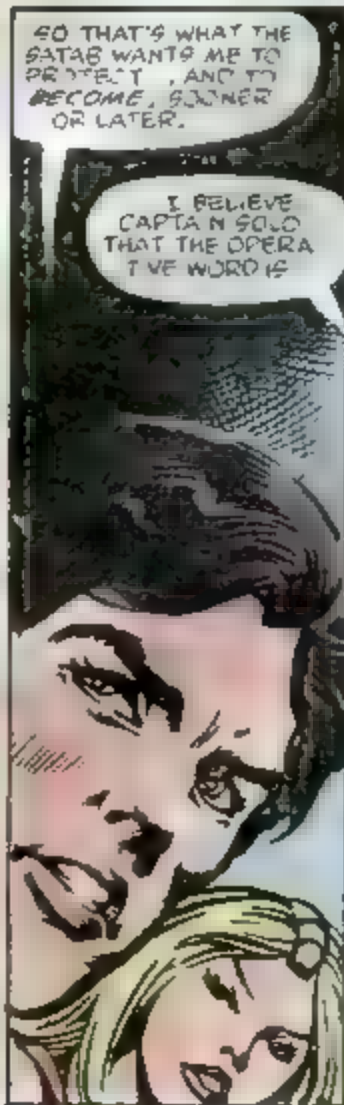
AS AN UNBORN WALLA NOTED AN OPEN
SWITCH SOFT LIGHT FLOODED ON--

"--AN' I SAW SATABS HUNDREDS OF
'EM' ALL FLOATIN' LIKE JESLY STARS
IN AN NIGHTMARE SKY



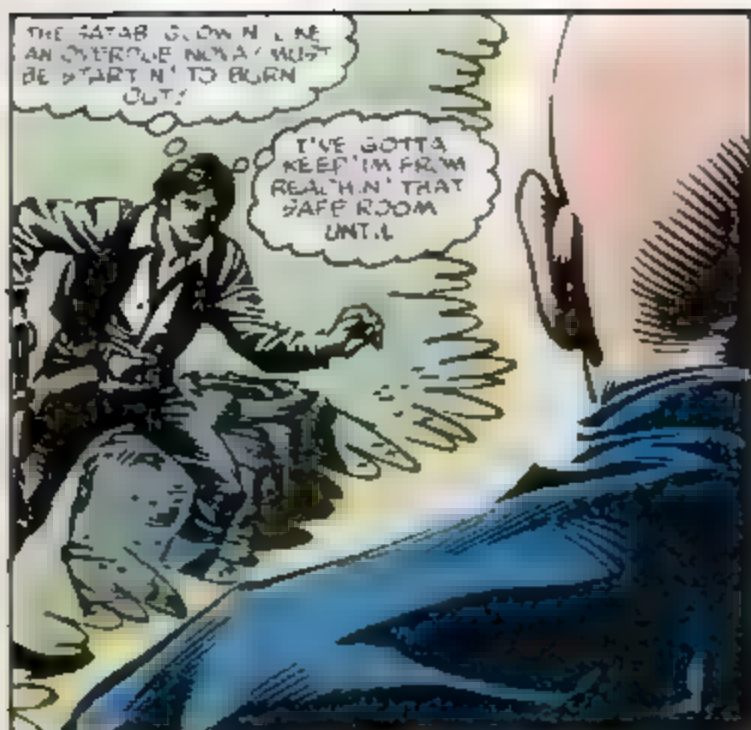
SO THAT'S WHAT THE
SATAB WANTS ME TO
PROTECT, AND TO
BECOME, SOONER
OR LATER.

I BELIEVE
CAPTAIN SOLO
THAT THE OPERA-
TIVE WORD IS



-- "SOONER"!





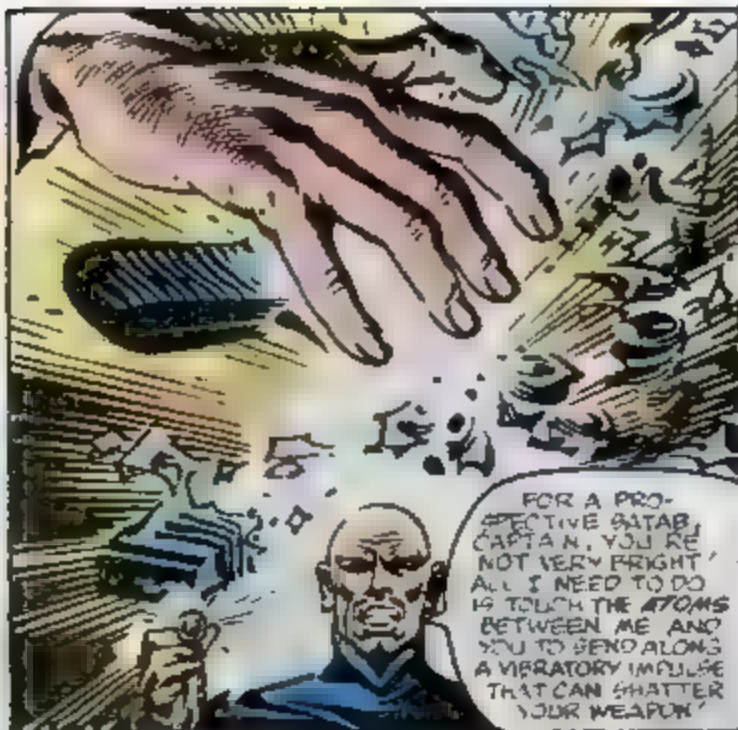
THE SATAB GLOW N' LINE
AN OVERLODE NOVA! MUST
BE START N' TO BURN
OUT!

I'VE GOTTA
KEEP 'IM FROM
REACHIN' THAT
SAFE ROOM
UNTIL

OH, YEAH! WELL,
IMPROVE THIS, YA
LUNATIC!



WHA-- I
DIDN'T EXPECT
A PHYSICAL
ATTACK



FOR A PRO-
SPECTIVE SATAB,
CAPTAIN, YOU'RE
NOT VERY FRIGHT!
ALL I NEED TO DO
IS TOUCH THE ATOMS
BETWEEN ME AND
YOU TO SEND ALONG
A VIBRATORY IMPULSE
THAT CAN SHATTER
YOUR WEAPON!



BUT NO MATTER! BY
THICKENING THE AIR
BETWEEN ME AND THAT
STONE HEAD--

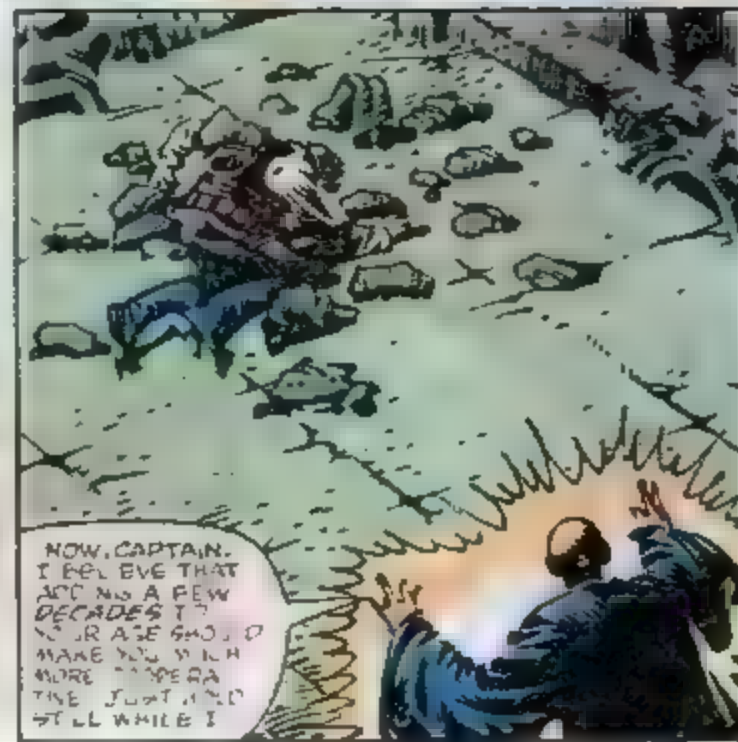
--I CAN
TURN IT
INTO A
MISSILE--



--OF MY OWN!

CHATAASH

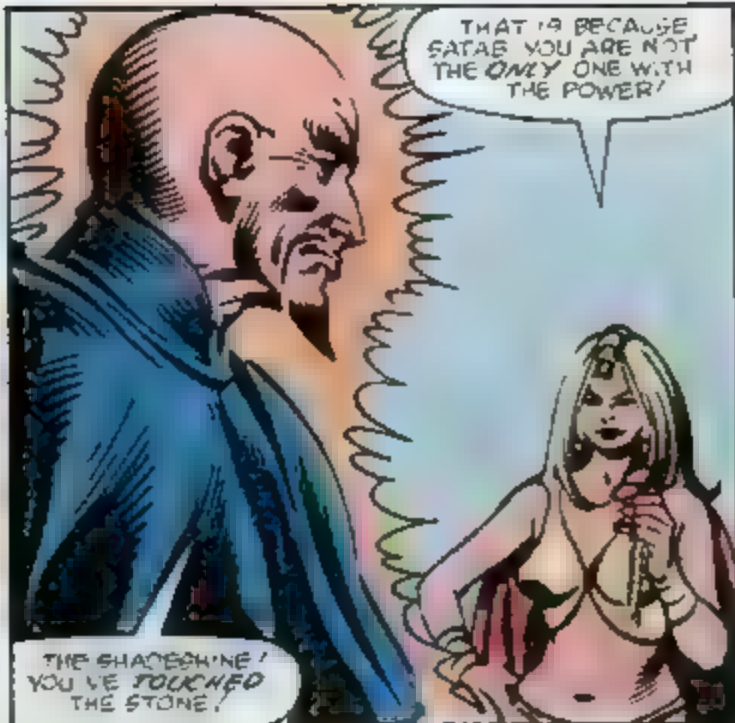
TOO MUCH
FEELING CAN'T
GET OUT OF THE
WAA--AGH!



NOW, CAPTAIN,
I BELIEVE THAT
AFTER A FEW
DECADES I
YOUR AGE SHOULD
MAKE YOU MUCH
MORE TEMPERA-
THE JUST AND
STILL WHILE I

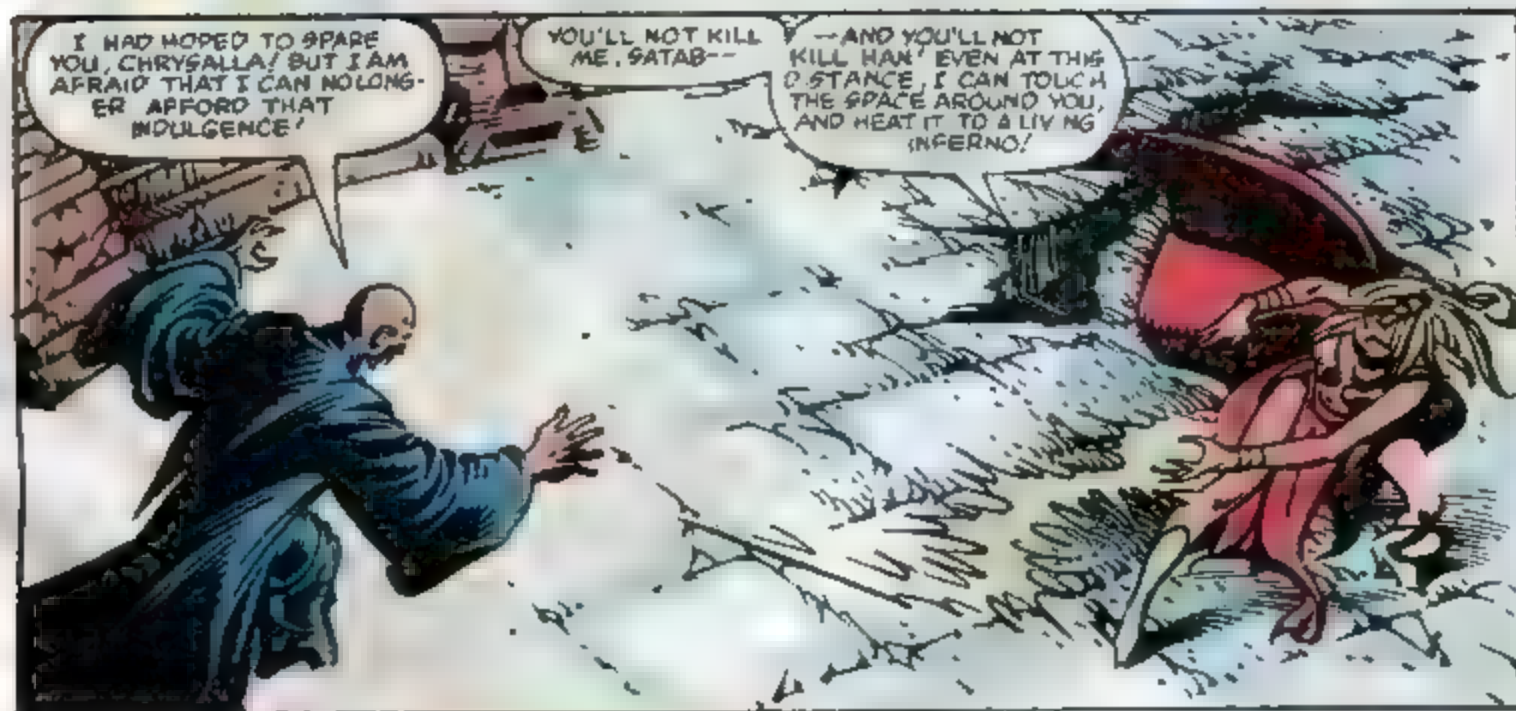


--RAHREE!
M-MY HAND
BURSTING INTO
FLAMES!



THAT IS BECAUSE
SATAB YOU ARE NOT
THE ONLY ONE WITH
THE POWER!

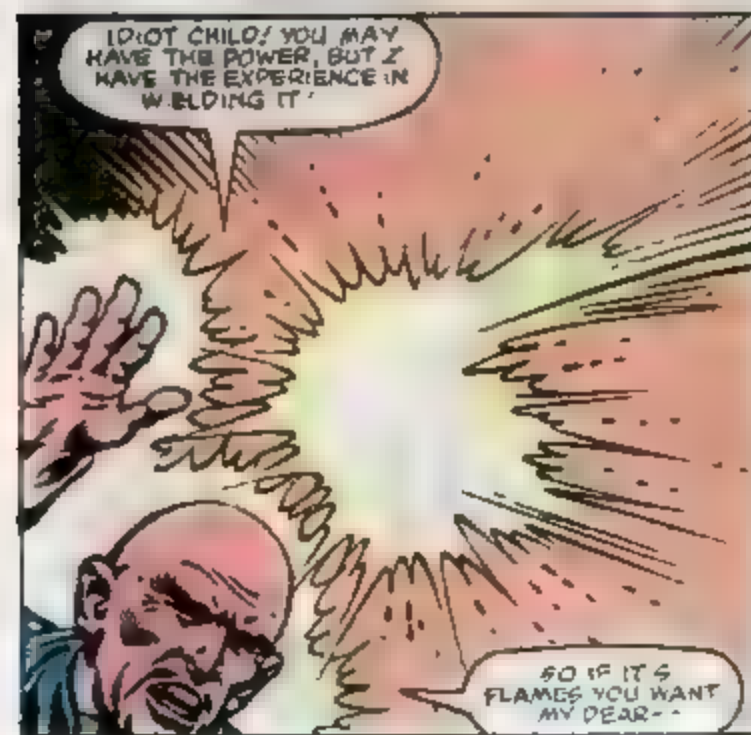
THE SHADESHINE!
YOU'VE TOUCHED
THE STONE!



I HAD HOPED TO SPARE
YOU, CHRYSALLA! BUT I AM
AFRAID THAT I CAN NO LONG-
ER AFFORD THAT
INDULGENCE!

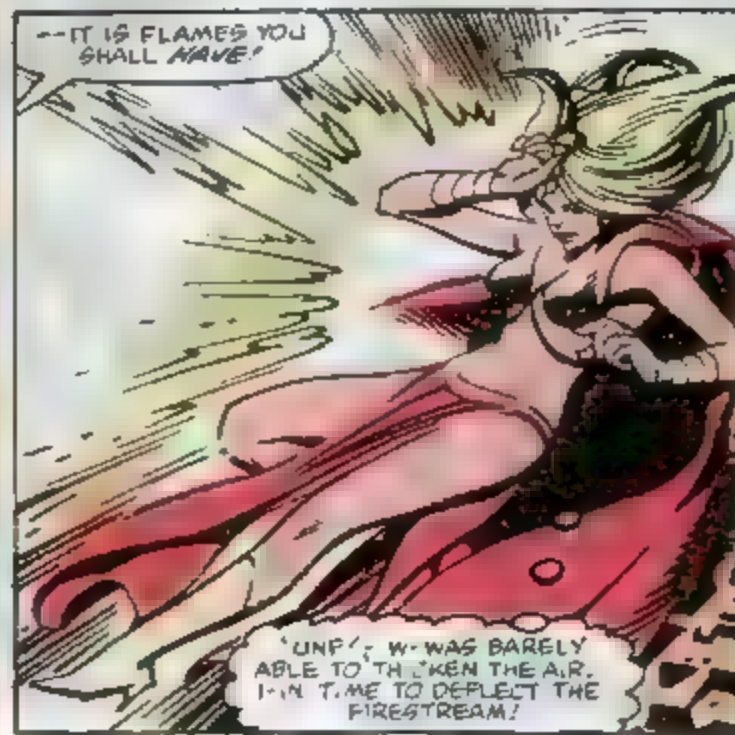
YOU'LL NOT KILL
ME, SATAB--

--AND YOU'LL NOT
KILL HAN! EVEN AT THIS
DISTANCE, I CAN TOUCH
THE SPACE AROUND YOU,
AND HEAT IT TO A LIVING
INFERNO!



IDIOT CHILD! YOU MAY
HAVE THE POWER, BUT I
HAVE THE EXPERIENCE IN
WELDING IT!

SO IF IT'S
FLAMES YOU WANT
MY DEAR--



--IT IS FLAMES YOU
SHALL HAVE!

'UNP!'- W-WAS BARELY
ABLE TO THICKEN THE AIR.
I-I-N TIME TO DEFLECT THE
FIRESTREAM!



NOW TO T TO NO!
I I CAN'T THINK MY
SENSITIVITY PEAKING

I-I CAN FEEL
THE VERY AIR ON
MY SKIN CAN HEAR
A SPIDER C-C-CLIMB-
ING UP THE WALL!
MY METABOLISM...
IS RACING



A-AND I CAN'T...
SHUT IT OFF
I CAN'T STOP IT!



M-MUST
GET TO THE
N-LI-CATION
CHAMBER F-EVEN
WITHOUT A
SUCCESSOR!

HAVE M
HAVE TO.



SORRY
SATAB--

-- I CAN'T
LET YOU DO
THAT.



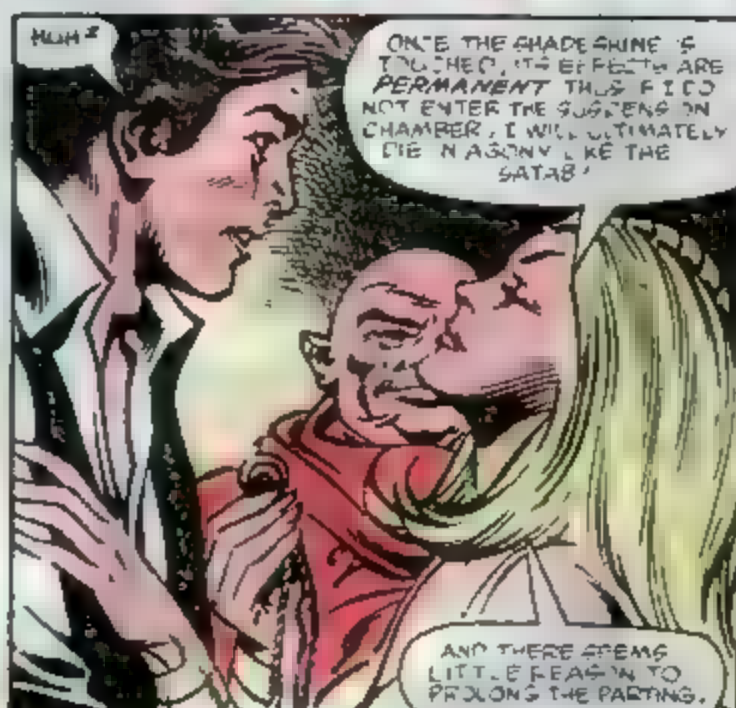
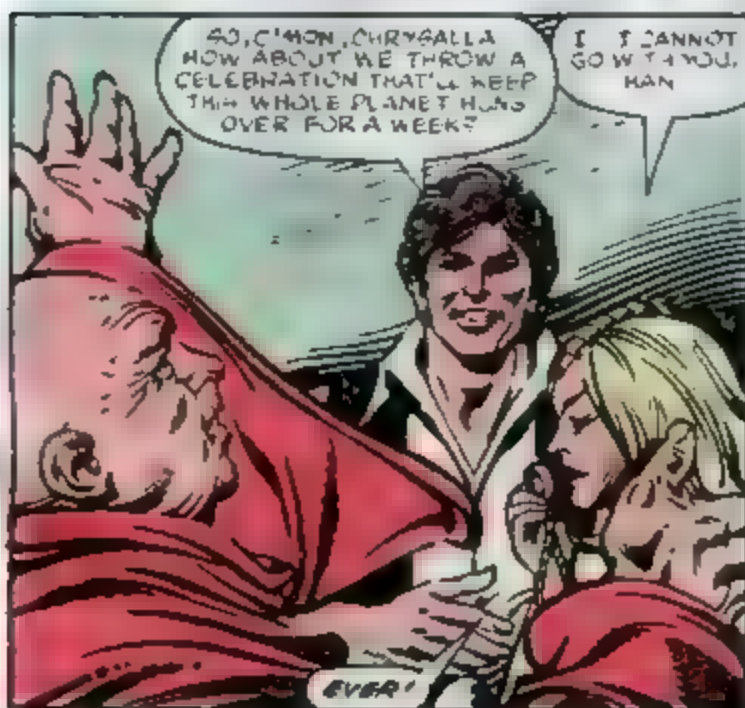
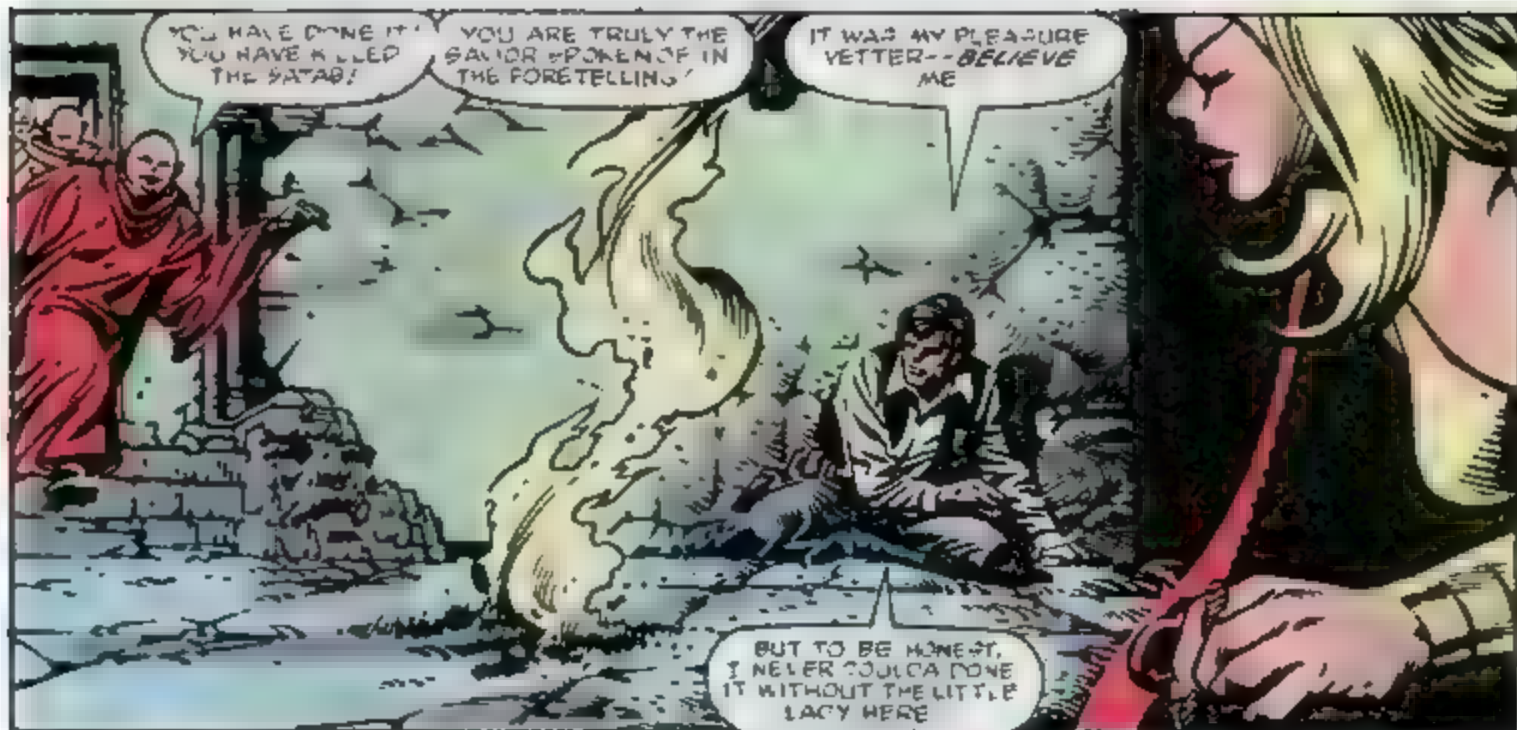
"I ONLY WANTED TO SLOW THE
SATAB DOWN DELAY HIM UNTIL
CHRYSALLA AND ME COULD TAKE
'IM ON TOGETHER

I BUT I GUESS THE BIG GUY WAS
TOO FAR SONE INTO HE FELL +
JUST LAY THERE TREMBLING



" TURNIN' BLACK AS HE BURNED
UP FROM INSIDE 'AN' THEN, WITH
A CLOUD OF SMOKE AN' SMOKE LIKE
A BACKFIRIN' GANG ROLLER -

"-- HE WAS GONE!



"AN THEN SHE WALKED INTO THE HALL OF SATABS, TALL, WITH A SLAM AN GRACE I COU'N'T THINK EVEN I COULD'VE MATCHED.



"YETTER PASSED HIS HAND OVER THE STONE SWITCH--



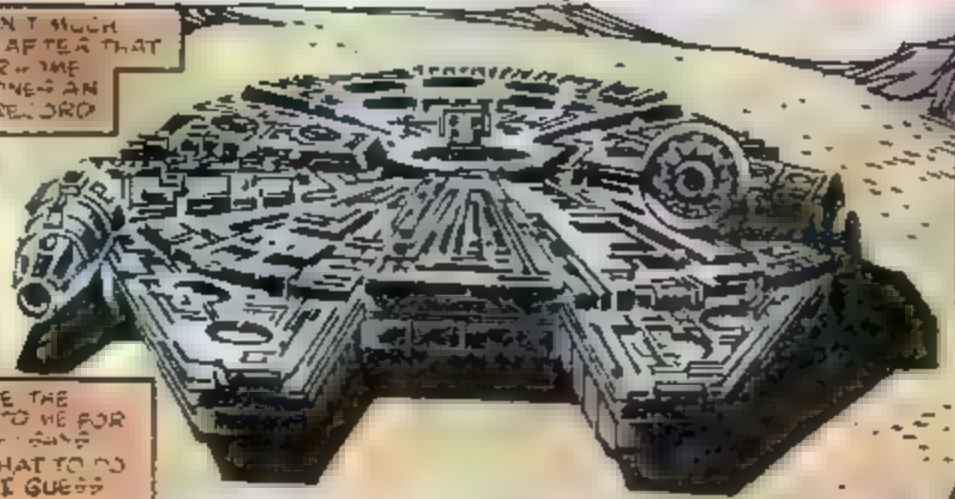
"---AN THE DOOR SLID DOWN HEAVY, CLOSIN' WITH A CRACK LIKE THE SOUND OF A BREAKIN' HEART



"THERE WAIN'T MUCH LEFT TO DO AFTER THAT. JUST RATHER--THE MEMORY STONES AN MAKE THIS RECORD

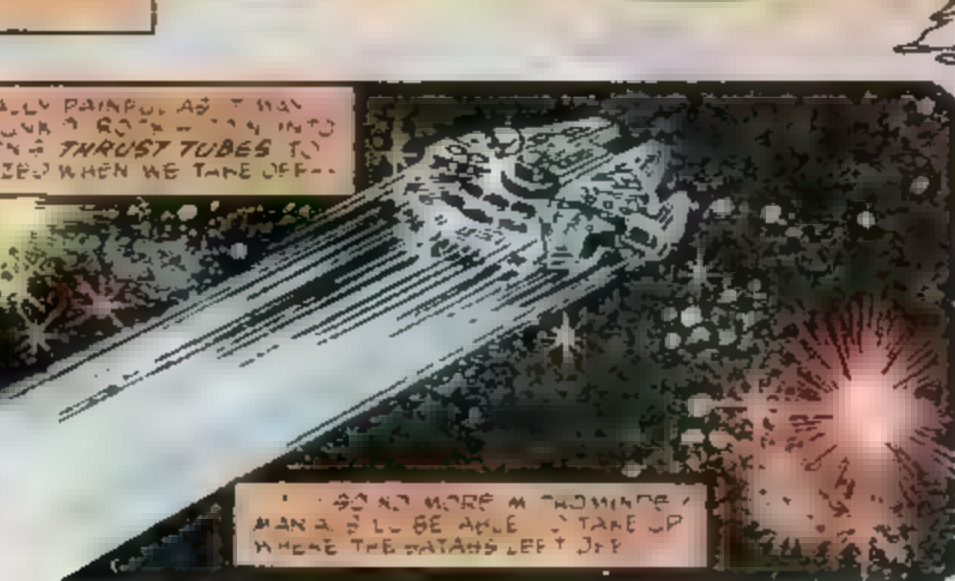


YETTER GAVE THE GLITCH--HE TO ME FOR PAPERBEPIN--SAYS I COULD KNOW WHAT TO DO WOULD I AN I GUESS I DO



"IF HANG ALL PAINFUL AS IT MAY BE THAT OUR A ROCK--FALL INTO THE FALLING THRUST TUBES TO BE VALORIZED WHEN WE TAKE OFF--

"GO NO MORE IN TWO MINUTE / MAN A COULD BE ABLE TO TAKE UP WHERE THE SATABS LEFT OFF



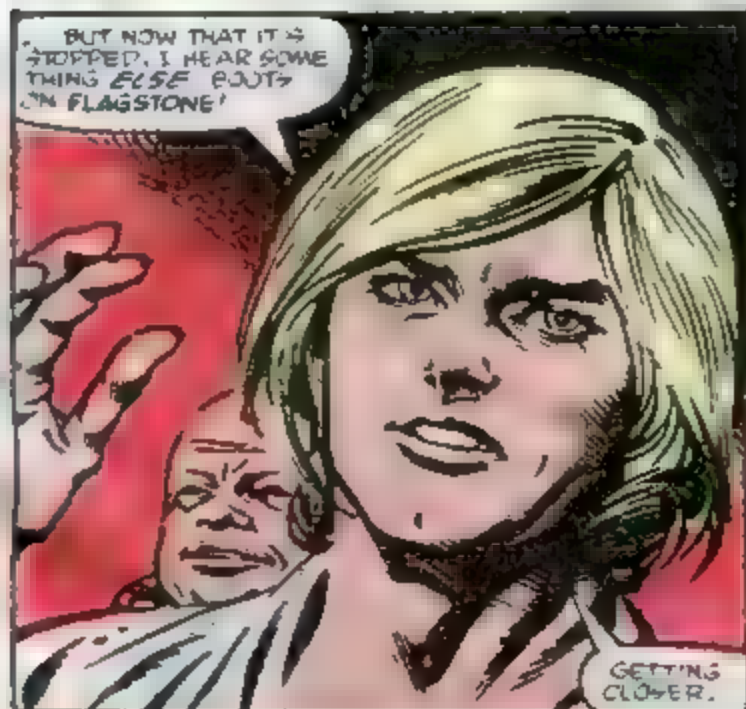


WELL I GUESS THAT'S ABOUT IT. BETTER NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I'D BETTER GET BACK TO THE FALCON. CHEWIE GETS A LITTLE TESTY WHEN I'M AWAY TOO LONG

GOOD LUCK, BUDDY!

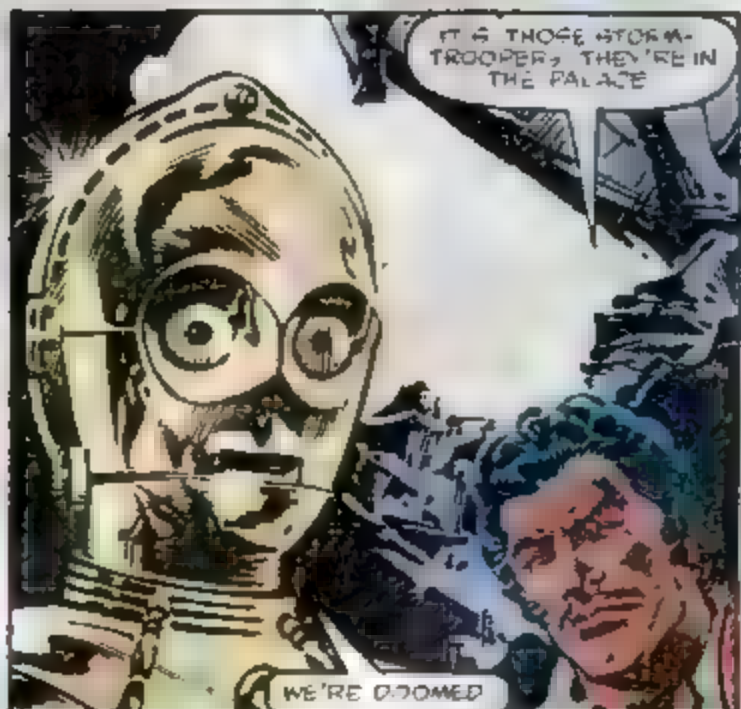
IT WAS SURE GOOD TO HEAR HAN'S VOICE AGAIN

YEAH



BUT NOW THAT IT'S STOPPED, I HEAR SOME THING ELSE BOOTS 'N FLAGSTONE!

GETTING CLOSER.



IT'S THOSE STORM-TROOPERS, THEY'RE IN THE PALACE

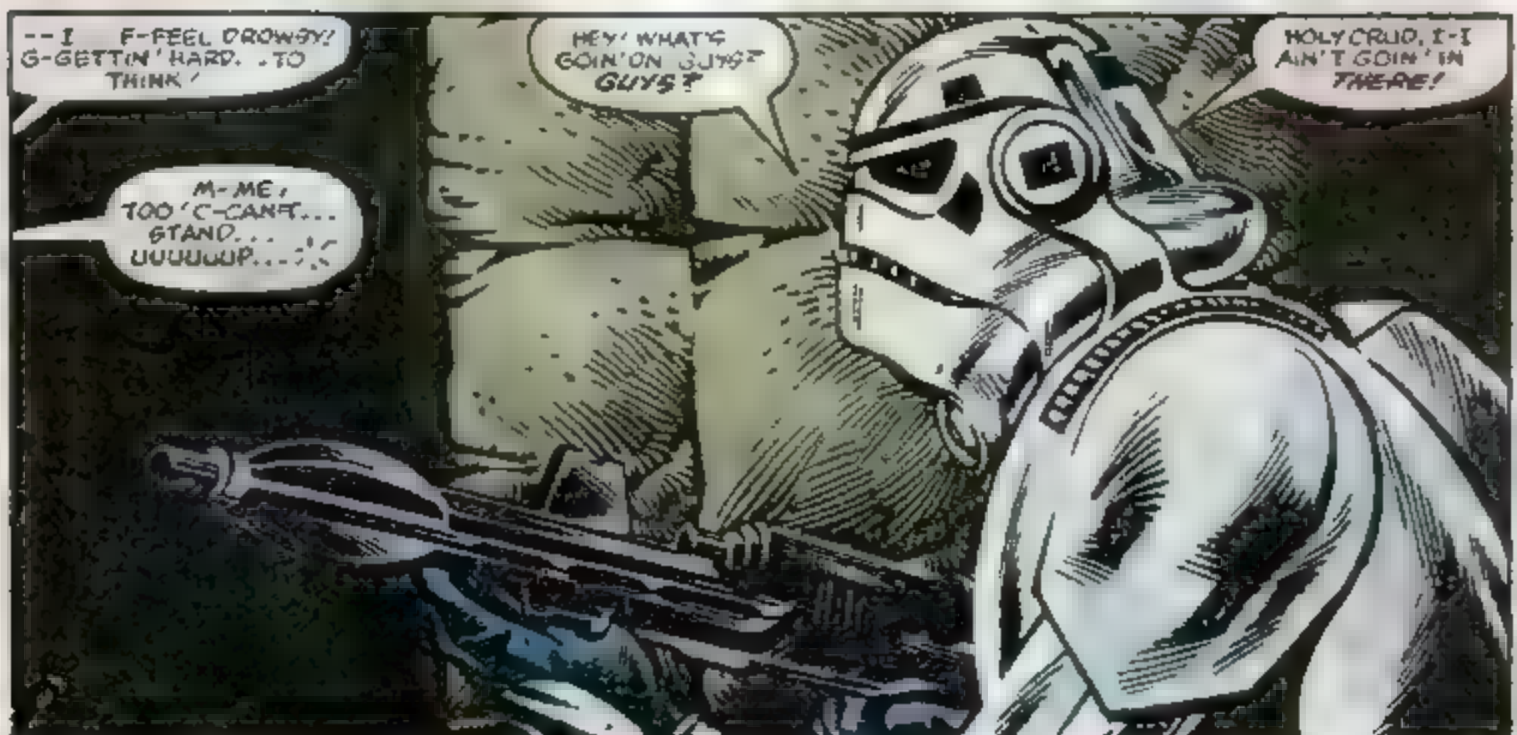
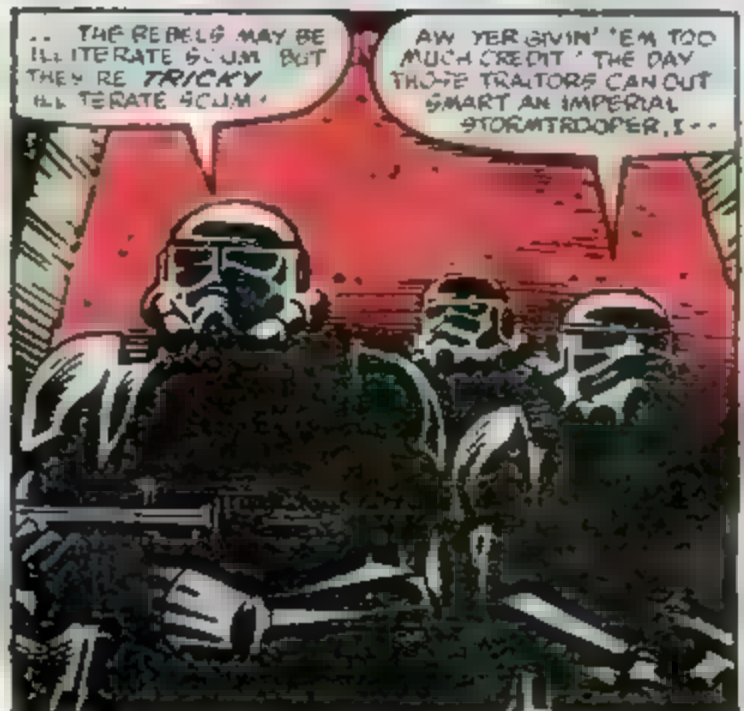
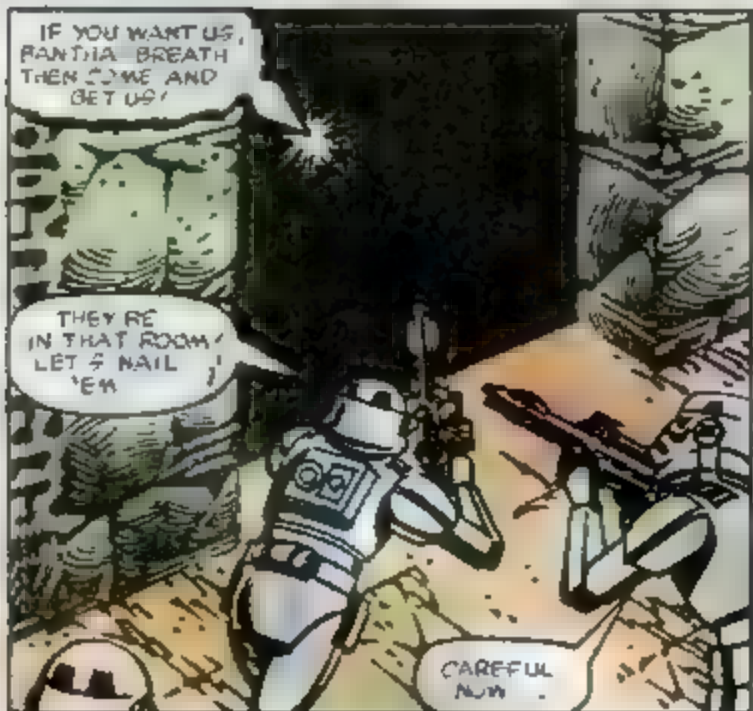
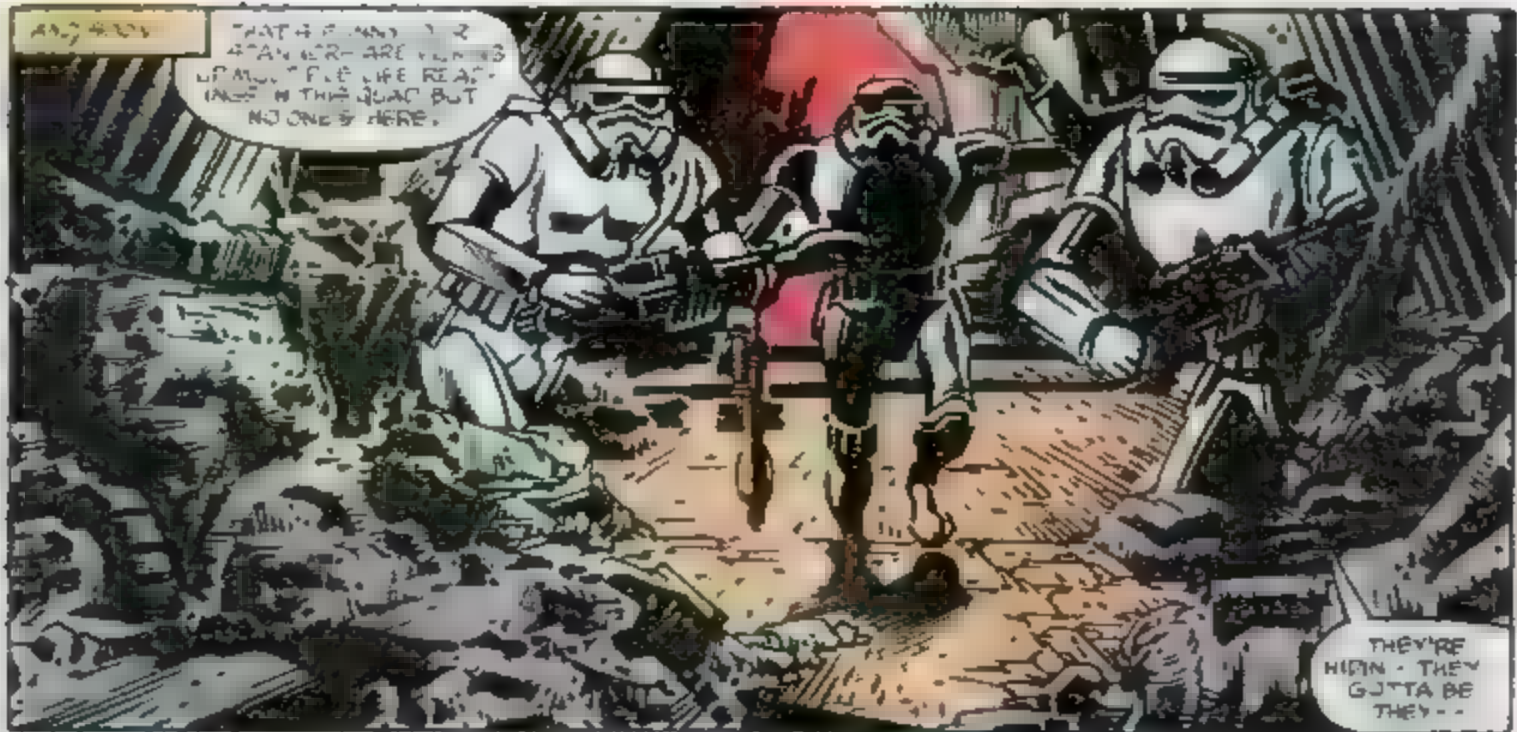
WE'RE DOOMED

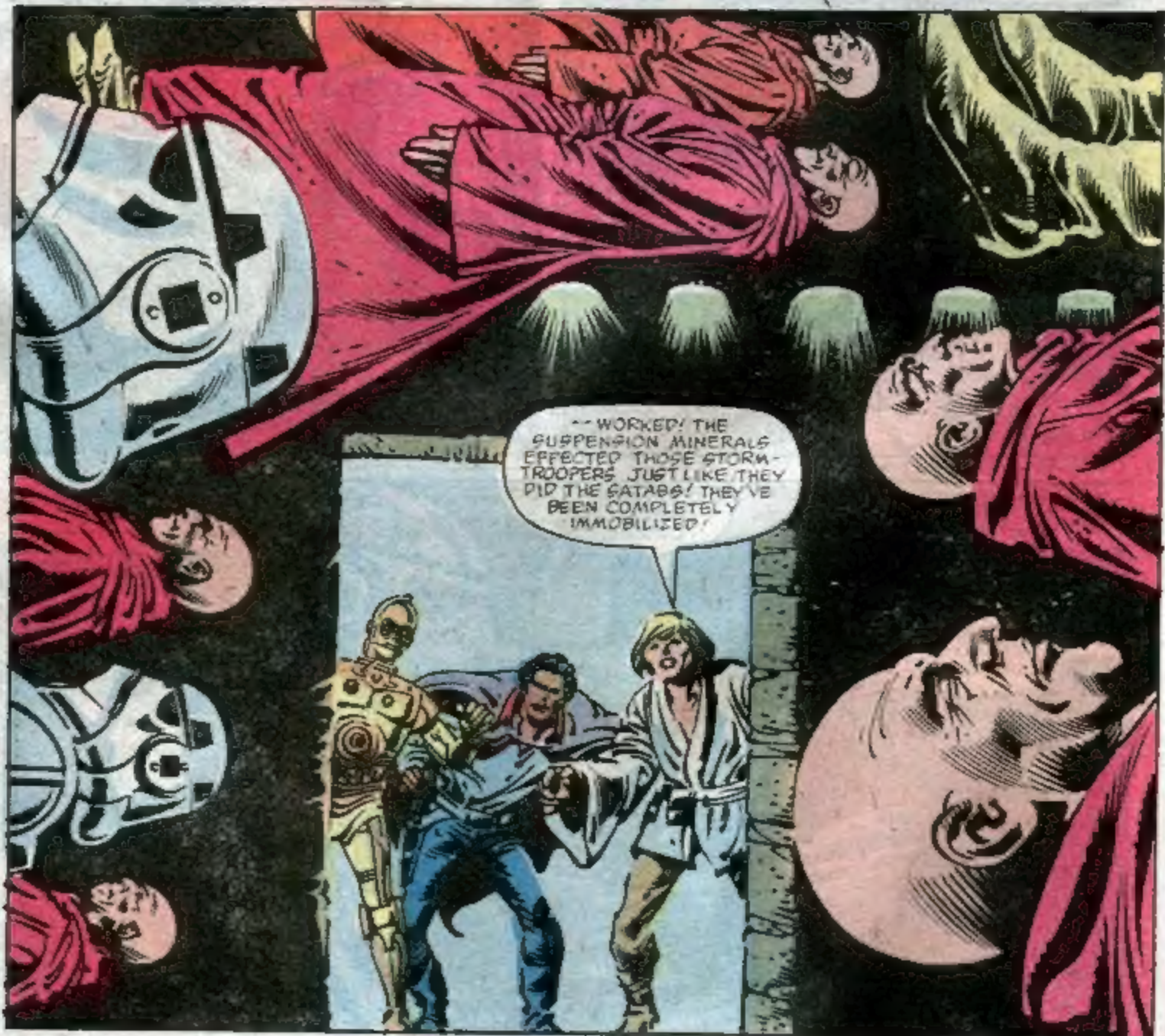


NOT YET WE'RE NOT. HAN MAY BE A MILLION MILES AWAY IN A BLOCK OF CARBONITE BUT HE'S STILL SAVING OUR SKINS

COME ON, GIVE ME A HAND

PIZZA HUT, 1400 CARLETON AVE
BETHESDA, MD 20814
1-800-333-3333





BULLPEN BULLETINS

STAN LEE'S OLD JOB...

...for better or worse is in my hands. Yes, I'm the Editor-in-Chief of the entire Marvel Comics line, and I love it! Tomorrow the world!

BUT FIRST, THIS IMPORTANT MESSAGE!

Last month I mentioned (barely) something called EPIC COMICS! I promised to tell you more about them this month. And so...

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE EPIC COMICS GROUP!

A lot of our ideas start with a "What if...?" A while back, Archie Goodwin, who's the Editorial Director of EPIC Illustrated Magazine, was sitting in a corner of the Bullpen sulking because his Associate Editor, Mary Jo Duffy, is so brilliant and efficient that he's always winding up with too much spare time. As I was walking by, I noticed Al Milgrom pull up a chair beside Archie to console him. Al, as if you didn't know it, is the genius editor of Marvel Fanfare, a few other terrific series, and the outrageously successful Marvel Graphic Novel, *The Death of Captain Marvel* (it was only the best-selling trade paperback in the country early this year!). Not being one to miss out on a chance to loom over people, I, too, joined Arch in his corner.

My keen mind instantly deduced the cause of the problem. "Arch," I said in a wise, fatherly tone, "what you need is more work!" Staring into the sludge in the bottom of his coffee cup, Arch slowly, quietly muttered, "What if... what if we got together some of the best comics creators available..."

"Arch, um... that's our job, man! That's what we always do!" said Al, looking concerned that Goodwin had finally flipped.

"Let him finish, Al!" said I. "He may be onto something. I hope..."

Still staring into his cup, Archie continued. "We'll get the best! The very best! We'll pay them a lot of money so they can take their time..." He looked up, wild-eyed, his voice growing louder. He uttered each word as though it were meant to be carved onto stone tablets. "...AND THEN WE'LL LET THEM DO WHATEVER THEY WANT!" He was shouting.

"Shhh!" I said. "You'll wake Hobson!" Mike Hobson, of course, is our Vice-President of Publishing. He doesn't really take afternoon naps in his office, but I started that rumor hoping to keep the noise level down in the Bullpen.

"Don't you see?" Goodwin hissed. "We'll encourage them to go nuts! All new characters! All new universes! New concepts! A whole new line of comics!"

"How's that different from EPIC Illustrated... or our Graphic Novels, Arch?" I asked softly, trying not to upset him further. Clearly, he was already raving.

"I'm talking about comics! Not short stories! Not limited-runs! Not novels or one-shots! I'm talking comics!"

"You mean... you're talking about new, ongoing titles, like *The Amazing Spider-Man*?"

"Yes! New series! But not like *Spider-Man*! Different! Weird, even! But just as great!" Arch was shouting at me again. Meanwhile a light seemed to go on in Al's eyes.

"Yeah... Yeah!" said Milgrom. "I can see it now! We'll print on good, white paper... in full color!"

"We'll offer great deals to creators!" I added, catching on. "Incentives to make 'em pull out the stops and create! Special contracts, like the Graphic Novels and EPIC Illustrated use—that'll bring the superstar talent running!"

"Wait! What'll we call this new line?" Al belated. The entire Bullpen answered him.

"THE EPIC COMICS GROUP!" They were on their feet, cheering.

"Your problem is solved, Arch," I said, smugly.

But he was sitting again, hunched over, staring at the sludge. "Hey, what's wrong?" I asked.

"This is a big project," he muttered without looking up. "I don't know if I have time to fit it in. I may need another assistant..."

THUS, IT BEGAN!

Something like that, anyway. I'm pleased to announce that the first issue of our first EPIC COMICS GROUP series will go on sale in October. It's called *Dreadstar*! It's by Jim Starlin, and it's everything that such a historic premiere issue ought to be. It'll be on sale through stores serviced by our Direct Distributors only. It'll be priced at \$1.50 and a steal at that price. I confidently predict that its value as a collector's item will quickly soar.

If you don't live near a collector's store or another outlet serviced by a Direct Distributor, I'd suggest that you avail yourself of the special subscription offer below. That way you can be sure to get every issue!

STAN LEE'S NEW JOB...

...the one glommed onto a couple of years back, as V.P. of Creative Affairs, which entails being creative boss, big deal producer and high-cosmic muckamuck for Marvel's film studio, Marvel Productions, is keeping him very busy. Why so, you say? Well, I've managed to talk Stan himself into explaining what's up in Hollywood in a special Stan's Soapbox appearing on this page next month! That's quite a feat, considering how busy he is with the four new shows and... oops! Almost stole his Hollywood Mogulship's lines! I'd better cool it...

...Till Next Month!

Stan Lee

THE HYPE BOX

DAZZLER #21—The story so dramatic... so moving, we had to make this issue double-sized to contain it! Featuring: the shameful secrets of Dazzler's mother, the fate of Carter Blaire, Dazzler's Carnegie Hall debut, and more super hero guest-stars than you can imagine! And don't miss this issue's senses-shattering photo-cover!

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #234—This time for sure—in addition to our usual STERN ROMITA JR. Spider-Man magic, there's a special free bonus insert for you this month: the *Marvel Comics Guide to Collecting Comics*.

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

- ☐ MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #93 — The Thing and Machine Man and Jocasta!
- ☐ TEAM AMERICA #6
- ☐ KING CONAN #13
- ☐ G. I. JOE #5
- ☐ DAZZLER #21
- ☐ KA-ZAR #20
- ☐ DENNIS THE MENACE #13
- ☐ DAREDEVIL #188
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #234
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #275
- ☐ THOR #325
- ☐ MICRONAUTS #47
- ☐ GHOST RIDER #74
- ☐ MOON KNIGHT #25
- ☐ HERCULES (Limited Series) #3
- ☐ CONAN THE MOVIE #2
- ☐ WOLVERINE (Limited Series) #3
- ☐ INCREDIBLE HULK #277
- ☐ AVENGERS #225
- ☐ CONAN #140
- ☐ MARVEL TALES #145
- ☐ X-MEN #183
- ☐ ROM #36
- ☐ POWER-MAN/IRON FIST #67
- ☐ VISION AND SCARLET WITCH (Limited Series) #1
- ☐ ANNIE #2
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR #246
- ☐ MARVEL TEAM-UP #123 — Spider-Man and Daredevil!
- ☐ IRON MAN #164
- ☐ PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #72
- ☐ DEFENDERS #113
- ☐ STAR WARS #65
- ☐ MASTER OF KUNG FU #118
- ☐ BLADE RUNNER #2

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ CRAZY #91
- ☐ THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #81
- ☐ BIZARRE ADVENTURES #34
- ☐ MARVEL FANFARE #5
- ☐ EPIC #14

MARVEL ANNUALS

- ☐ ROM ANNUAL #1
- ☐ X-MEN ANNUAL #6
- ☐ MARVEL TEAM-UP ANNUAL #5
- ☐ CONAN ANNUAL #7
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA ANNUAL #6
- ☐ STAR WARS ANNUAL #2
- ☐ THOR ANNUAL #10

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WHAT A BRILLIANT IDEA, MASTER LUKE-- RECORDING YOUR TAUNT ON ONE OF THOSE MEMORY STONES, THEN ACTIVATING IT AND TOSSING IT INTO THE NULLIFICATION CHAMBER TO LURE THOSE IMPERIALS INSIDE!



THANKS, THREEPIO, BUT I NEVER WOULD'VE HAD THE IDEA IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR HAN'S STORY.



AND HAN WOULDN'T HAVE LIVED TO TELL THAT STORY IF NOT FOR--

